

**Section 19(1)(e) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)**  
**Chief Executive's Opinion on the Extension of the Gorey Town and Environs**  
**Local Area Plan 2017-2023**

**25 April 2022**



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**Appendix 1** Strategic Environmental Assessment

**Appendix 2** Appropriate Assessment



# 1. Introduction

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## 1.1 Background

The Gorey Town and Environs Local Area Plan 2017 – 2023 (hereon referred to as the LAP) is the spatial planning framework for Gorey Town, setting out the strategies and objectives that are used to guide the assessment of all development proposals in the plan area.

The LAP, which was made by Wexford County Council on the **10<sup>th</sup> April 2017**, has a lifetime of six years. This six-year period would end on the **10<sup>th</sup> April 2023**. However, having regard to the provisions of Section 251 of Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and as confirmed by case law<sup>1</sup>, the lifetime of the LAP can be extended by a further 54 days (9 days for each year of the LAP six-year lifetime). This means that the LAP is due to expire on the **3rd June 2023**<sup>2</sup>.

Wexford County Council (hereon referred to as the Planning Authority) may decide to make a new LAP, amend the existing LAP or revoke the existing LAP before then. The first stage of making, amending or revoking of any LAP is the issuing/publishing of notices under Section 20(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

Section 19(1) (d) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) allows for a Planning Authority, as they consider appropriate, by resolution to defer the issuing/publishing of said notices for a further period not exceeding five years. This has the effect of prolonging the duration of the LAP beyond its original six-year lifetimes.

The resolution to extend the lifetime of an LAP must be made not more than five years after the making of the previous LAP. As outlined previously, the provisions of Section 251 of Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) provides that the appropriate period for

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<sup>1</sup> Browne v Kerry Co Council [2009] IEHC 552

<sup>2</sup> 10th April 2023 plus 54 days = 25th May 2023

making this resolution can be extended by 45 days (9 days for each of the five years). This means that the resolution must be passed by the **25th May 2022**.

## **1.2 Process for Deferring the Issuing of Notices**

Where the Planning Authority considers that it would be appropriate, by resolution, to defer the sending of the notices, the Members of the Planning Authority must:

1. Seek and obtain from the Chief Executive:
  - a. An **opinion** as to whether the LAP remains consistent with the objectives and Core Strategy of the relevant development plan;
  - b. An **opinion** as to whether the objectives of the LAP have not been secured;  
and
  - c. Confirmation that the sending and publishing of the notices may be deferred and the period for which they may be deferred.
2. Having received the opinion and confirmation from the Chief Executive, the Members may then determine that it would appropriate to defer to the sending of the notices for an agreed time giving reasons therefor and shall notify the Chief Executive of the decision and reason of the Planning Authority to defer the sending and publishing of the notices.

## **1.3 Purpose of this Report**

This report has been prepared pursuant to Section 19 (1) (e) (ii) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). Its purpose is to set out the Chief Executive's opinion on whether it would be appropriate to defer the issuing/publishing of notices, that is, to defer the commencement of the review of the existing LAP.

The formulation of this opinion requires an examination of:

- (a) Whether the LAP remains consistent with the objectives and Core Strategy of the current Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 (as extended) which is

deemed to be the relevant development plan<sup>3</sup> and is hereon referred to as the 2013 CDP; and

(b) Whether the objectives of the LAP have or have not been substantially secured.

### **1.3.1 Report Layout**

The report is laid out as follows:

- Section 1 provides the background to the report.
- Section 2 analyses the content of the LAP viz-a-viz the Core Strategy of the 2013 CDP.
- Section 3 examines the LAP objectives to determine if they remain consistent with the 2013 CDP and whether or not the objectives of the LAP have been substantially secured.
- Section 4 concludes the report, setting out the Chief Executive's Opinion and the next stage.

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<sup>3</sup> The Wexford County Development Plan 2013 -2019 (as extended) is deemed to be the relevant development plan for the purposes of Section 19 (1) (e ) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) as it is the operational development plan at the point in time when the Section 19 (1) (d) process is being considered.

## 2. Consistency with the Core Strategy of the Wexford County Development Plan

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### 2.1 Background

The LAP forms part of a hierarchy of land use plans, sitting below the Wexford County Development Plan (otherwise known as the Parent plan).

The LAP was prepared following the making of the 2013 CDP, and at the time of its making, the LAP was deemed consistent with the CDP. The 2013 CDP has not been the subject of any variations since the LAP was made in April 2017.

While the LAP must be consistent with its parent CDP, its strategies, and objectives, it is not necessary for the LAP to repeat all relevant objectives from the CDP. The purpose of the LAP is to provide the spatial planning framework for the plan area, and if required, set out additional specific objectives relevant to the implementation of that spatial planning framework. This approach was applied in the preparation and making of the LAP.

Development proposals within the boundary of the LAP are required to comply with both the LAP, and the CDP, where applicable.

### 2.2 Format and Content of the Gorey Town LAP

The LAP is comprised of 11 sections. Table 2-1 provides a brief overview of each section.

Table 2-1 Format and Content of the Gorey Town and Environs LAP 2017-2023		
Section	Title	Content
1	Introduction	Vision and Key Principles
2	Housing and Social Infrastructure Delivery	Population and housing requirements, social infrastructure delivery and accessibility
3	Urban Design Strategy	‘Place’, ‘Route’ and ‘Landscape’ concepts and Neighbourhood Framework Plans (NFP). There are



		five NFP in the plan area : Town Centre, Ballytegan, Clonattin, Creagh and Gorey South. Key Components and Key Development Objectives are provided for each NPF.
<b>4</b>	Access and Movement Strategy	Implementation of the ‘Route’ concept, active travel, and public transport
<b>5</b>	Recreation and Open Space Strategy	Public open space hierarchy (Hub parks, Neighbourhood parks and pocket open spaces), amenity walks, green corridors and river corridors and play facilities.
<b>6</b>	Economic Development Strategy	Focus for future economic development in the plan area and locations for this development.
<b>7</b>	Town Centre Development	Public realm, enhancing the town centre and urban regeneration and renewal.
<b>8</b>	Retail	Future retail development in the town and criteria for assessment.
<b>9</b>	Heritage	Architectural, archaeological, and natural heritage.
<b>10</b>	Climate Change, Flood Risk Management, and Services	Climate change, flood risk management and assessment, service infrastructure and environmental management.
<b>11</b>	Land Use Zoning	Land use zoning objectives and land use matrix

## 2.3 Consistency with Core Strategy

### 2.3.1 Settlement Hierarchy

Gorey Town is referred to as a ‘Large Town’ in the LAP. This is consistent with the Settlement Hierarchy in the 2013 CDP (and as for the prevailing Regional Planning Guidelines and Core Strategy in the 2013 CDP).

While Gorey Town is now designated as a Key Town in the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (hereon referred to as the RSES)<sup>4</sup> and the terminology has changed, it is considered that the LAP supports this Key Town designation in terms of the RSES.

<sup>4</sup> The RSES was made on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020.

Regional Planning Objective (RPO) 25 in the RSES refers to Gorey Town’s role and development as a Key Town. RPO 25 is reflected in the LAP. Table 2-2 summaries the content of RPO25 and highlights the related objectives in the LAP.

<b>Table 2-2 Regional Planning Objective No 25 – Reflection in the Gorey LAP</b>	
<b>Regional Planning Objective No. 25</b>	<b>Related Gorey Town LAP Objectives</b>
(a) To strengthen the role of Gorey as an economic driver, leveraging its strategic location and accessibility to Rosslare Europort/proposed connection to the Dublin – Belfast Eastern Economic Corridor (port, rail, and road), build upon its inherent strengths including digital connectivity, skills, innovation and enterprise, tourism, culture, and retail services.	Section 6 Economic - Objectives EDS01 and EDS08  Section 8 Retail - Objectives RS01, RS02 and RS03.
(b) To encourage and facilitate strategic employment development to allow Gorey Town to become more self-sufficient in terms of employment including development of opportunity sites and property solutions.	Section 6 Economic Development – Objectives ESD01, EDS02, EDS04, EDS05 and EDS06.
(c) To strengthen ‘steady state’ investment in existing rail infrastructure and seek investment in improved infrastructure and services to ensure its continued renewal and maintenance to high level in order to provide quality levels of safety, service, accessibility, and connectivity.	Section 4 Access and Movement – Objective AMS05
(d) To seek investment in sustainable transport measures through a Local Transport Plan to include a public transport hub/inter-change, new road bridges over the railway line (at Ballytegan and at Ramstown/Knockmullen) and improved pedestrian and cycling infrastructure.	Section 3 Urban Design Strategy – Objective UD01  Section 4 Access and Movement – Objective AMS02, AMS02, AMS04 and AMS05.
(e) To improve the public realm and attractiveness of the Town Centre as a place to live, work and visit through key urban regeneration projects/environmental improvement schemes.	Section 6 Economic Development – Objective EDS03 and EDS07.  Section 7 Town Centre Development – Objective TC01, TC07 and VS01.
(f) To support the delivery of the infrastructural (including education, amenity, social and cultural) requirements identified for Gorey to keep pace with population growth.	Section 2 Housing and Social Infrastructure - Objective H03

(g) To support the delivery of infrastructural requirements identified for Gorey subject to the outcome of the planning process and environmental assessments.	Section 1 Introduction – Objective AA01
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### 2.3.2 Core Strategy Population Allocation and Land Use Zoning

Table 2-3 provides a summary of the Core Strategy population allocation, household/residential unit allocation and associated residential zoned land requirements for the town as set out in the 2013 CDP.

**Table 2-3 Summary of the Gorey Town Core Strategy Allocations in the Wexford County Development Plan 2013 – 2019 (as extended)**

Gorey Town	Core Strategy
Population Allocation (Persons)	2,101
Households/Residential Units Allocation	1,022
Residential Zoning Allocation (HA)	89.46

Section 2. 3 Future Population and Housing in the LAP sets out the Core Strategy population, housing, and residential zoned land allocations for the LAP plan period 2017-2023. This is summarised in Table 2-4.

**Table 2-4 Summary of Core Strategy and Residential Zoning in the Gorey Town LAP**

Additional households for the LAP period	1,320 units <sup>5</sup>
Residential Zoned Land (including 50% headroom) for development within the plan period.	101HA
Long Term Residential Zoning (for development outside of the plan period).	34HA <sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Adjusted to reflect the LAP plan period and to take account of residential units constructed between the coming into effect of the CDP and the preparation of the Gorey LAP (See page 14 of the LAP)

<sup>6</sup> This land will remain for development outside of the extended plan period unless an amendment of the LAP to provide for otherwise is made.

The Core Strategy of the LAP, as adjusted for the LAP period, is consistent with the Core Strategy of the 2013 CDP.

### **2.3.3 Progress in implementing the 2013 CDP Core Strategy and the LAP Allocations**

Since the LAP was made, and as of the 31st December 2021, 44.99ha of Residential zoned land in the plan area has been the subject of residential planning permissions with permission in place for 1,465 units.

As of the 31st December 2021, the implementation of planning permissions relating to the delivery of 907 units were underway or completed, leaving 413 to be delivered. However, as of that date, only 575 of the 907 units had been commenced/completed. This means that just 44% of the required 1,320 units were delivered/underway to being delivered in the fifth year of the lifetime of the LAP.

As of the 31st December 2021, the remaining 56ha<sup>7</sup> of land had not been committed to residential permissions. It is considered highly unlikely that housing units will be delivered on that land during the remaining year of the LAP. The probability of many units being delivered on that land during an extended plan period is also unlikely given the lead in time required for the preparation of planning applications, decision-making, site preparations etc.

### **2.3.4 Gorey LAP and Service Infrastructure**

#### Wastewater

The upgrade of the Courtown Wastewater Treatment Plant was completed in 2014. This plant, which serves both Gorey Town and Courtown, has a capacity of 36,000 PE<sup>8</sup>. In April 2020, there was 14,442 PE headroom available, and as such sufficient capacity to cater for population allocation set out in the CDP Core Strategy and the LAP.

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<sup>7</sup> The LAP Core Strategy 101ha minus the committed 44.9ha = 56HA

<sup>8</sup> PE = Population Equivalent

### Water

The LAP area is served by the Gorey Rural and Gorey Regional Creagh Water Supply Zone. Irish Water's Capital Investment Programme for 2020-2024 includes a project to upgrade the Gorey Regional water supply infrastructure. Currently, it is considered that there is sufficient capacity to cater for the population allocation set out in the CDP Core Strategy and the LAP.

### Roads

The delivery of new road infrastructure in the plan area is ongoing, and is, in the most part, aligned with the delivery of new residential development e.g., part of Gorey South Avenue is being delivered via the MillQuarter development at Knockmullen and Millands.

### Footpaths and Cycle Paths

The delivery of footpath and cycle path infrastructure is ongoing through both the work of Gorey-Kilmuckridge MD and as part of new residential developments. Having regard to Map 3 Footpaths in the LAP, while new footpaths have been provided along Clonattin Road, Carnew Road and Ramsfortpark, there are still footpaths to be developed in plan area e.g., Millands, along the R741, Ballytegan, Ballowen, Kilnahue and Ramstown.

The development of cycle paths is also progressing with segregated cycle paths on the R772 (Arklow to Inch Road), the R772 (Clogh Road), Paul Funge Boulevard and Creagh Avenue. There is still a lot of work to do to progress the further development of cycling infrastructure line with Map 4 Cycle Paths in the LAP. It is envisaged that this will be considered in detail in the forthcoming Local Transport Plan for the town.

### **2.3.5 Gorey LAP and the County Retail Strategy**

Gorey Town is designated as Level 2: Large Sub-Regional Town in the 2013 CDP County Retail Strategy. Large to medium scale convenience and medium scale comparison retail developments are considered appropriate to this level. Section 8 of the LAP relates to retail development in the plan area, and it provides for retail development in accordance with the County Retail Strategy.

#### 2.3.4 Opinion regarding consistency with the 2013 CDP Core Strategy

Having regard to the foregoing examination, the following is concluded:

- In the first instance it should be noted that the Core Strategy in the LAP is consistent with the Core Strategy in the 2013 CDP, deemed as the relevant development plan, as it was adjusted to account for the LAP period and units built.
- Of the 1,320 units required to be delivered by the Core Strategy, only 575 units had been commenced and/or completed. This account for 44% of the overall Core Strategy requirement.
- There is sufficient undeveloped residential zoned land in place to deliver the remaining 745 units, with permissions relating to some these units commenced.
- If all remaining lands became available to develop during the lifetime of the extended LAP, then there would be an overprovision of residential units. However, having regard to the pace of delivery to date, it is considered unlikely that this will occur during the extended period of LAP.
- The Planning Authority will be required to examine the consistency of the LAP with the 2022 CDP following its adoption, and if necessary, to amend the LAP within one-year of the making of the 2022 CDP to ensure that the objectives of the LAP are consistent with the 2022 CDP. Having regard to the figures set out in the Draft County Development Plan 2022-2028 (and Proposed Material Alterations) this will likely require lands to be de-zoned at that stage.
- As part of the ongoing monitoring of the 2013 CDP and the forthcoming 2022 CDP, the Planning Authority will monitor the implementation of the relevant Core Strategy in all settlements including Gorey Town. This will include monitoring the number of units granted permission and the number of units commenced. The outcome of this monitoring will be a material consideration in the assessment of subsequent planning applications for residential development in the LAP area.

## 3 LAP Objectives – Consistency with the County Development Plan and Implementation

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### 3.1 Introduction

This section assesses:

- (a) whether the objectives of the LAP remain consistent with the CDP, and
- (b) whether the implementation of these objectives has been substantially secured.

### 3.2 Assessment

#### 3.2.1 Consistency of the LAP objectives with the County Development Plan

Each objective in the LAP has been reviewed against the 2013 CDP, and this review concluded that the objectives remain consistent with the 2013 CDP. It is noted that should an issue of non-consistency present, the objective in the CDP takes precedence as it is the 'Parent' plan.

#### 3.2.2 Securing of the Objectives in the LAP

The objectives in the LAP are set out in Sections 2 to 11 of the LAP. The key components and objectives for each Neighbourhood Framework Plan area are also set in Chapter 3. While the objectives are listed in separate sections, all of the sections are inter-related and the securing of objectives under one section is likely to be dependent on another section.

An assessment of whether the implementation of each objective has been substantially secured was carried out<sup>9</sup>. The securing of many objectives in the LAP are, for the most part, linked to new development proposals in the plan area, e.g., objectives relating to housing, roads, employment and economic activity, infill development, retail and commercial and amenity and recreational open space.

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<sup>9</sup> As for the residential planning permissions, the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 is the cut-off date for this assessment.

While many of the granted planning permissions (residential and other) will contribute to the substantial securing of objectives, this opinion can only be formed on the commencement and completion of the relevant permissions.

Table 3-1 provides an overview of relevant non-residential planning permissions in the LAP area.

<b>Table 3-1 Other Significant Permissions in the LAP Area</b>			
<b>Application No</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Development</b>	<b>Land Use Zoning</b>
20210529	Raheenagurren	Improvements to existing road on the cinema lands, the provision of foot and cycle paths.	Tourism
20210247	Mill Lands	Industrial Unit	Commercial
20210614	Ballowen or Ramsfort	Temporary permission for post primary school – 7 prefabricated buildings	Community and Education
20201177	Knockmullen	Change of use of existing driving range to Science and Education Training Centre	Residential
20200467	Creagh	Sports Clubhouse and all-weather pitch	Community and Education
20200175	Clonattin Lower	8 self-storage units (temporary permission)	Commercial
20181795	Ballyloughan	8 Industrial units	Industry
20171223	Knockmullen and Mill Lands	Pedestrian and cycle link	Leisure and Amenity
20161002	Knockmullen and Mill Lands	4 storey office and I.T building	Business and Technology



## 4 Environmental Assessments and Chief Executive's Opinion

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### 4.1 Environmental Assessments

#### 4.1.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment

The LAP was subject to full Strategic Environmental Assessment. The effect of the proposed extension of the duration of the LAP has also been subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment which is set out in Appendix 1 of this report. The assessment concludes that the proposed extension of duration of the LAP is not likely to have significant effects on the environment.

#### 4.1.2 Appropriate Assessment

The LAP was subject to a Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment which determined that the LAP, either alone or combination with other plans and programmes, would not adversely affect a European site. It was further determined that there are a number of objectives in the LAP governing the protection of European sites which will result in a positive impact on the Natura 2000 network.

The effect of the proposed extension of the duration of the LAP has also been subject to Appropriate Assessment which is set out in Appendix 2 of this report. The assessment concludes that the proposed extension will not have a significant effect on a European site.

### 4.2 Chief Executive's Opinion

Having regard to the examination and analysis in Section 2 and Section 3 and the outcomes of the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2, it is the opinion of the Chief Executive that:

- The Gorey Town and Environs Local Area Plan 2017-2023 remains consistent with the objectives and core strategy of the Wexford County Development Plan 2013 – 2019 (as extended).

- There are many objectives in the LAP that have only been partially secured or not secured to date. Further to this, the implementation of many objectives is tied to developments/planning permissions and as such their implementation is ongoing and could not be described as substantially secured.
- The effect of the proposed extension of duration of the existing LAP is not likely to have significant effects on the environment or to have a significant effect on a European site.
- The sending and publishing of the notices under Section 20(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) may therefore be deferred.
- The sending and publishing of the notices may be deferred for a period of up to **3 years**. This period of time is recommended for the following reasons:
  - To provide Wexford County Council the opportunity to allocate sufficient resources and time to prepare a new Local Area plan for Gorey Town and to ensure, in the interim period, that a clear and coherent spatial planning framework remains in place to provide certainty and to guide the proper planning and sustainable development of this important settlement.
  - To provide Wexford County Council and key stakeholders with additional time to achieve strategic objectives of the LAP, in particular, in relation to the delivery of the five Neighbourhood Frameworks Plans including the associated Route, Place and Landscape concepts and to avail of funding that will assist with the realisation of strategic objectives relating to economic development, community development and placemaking.

### **4.3 Next Steps - Notice of Resolution**

Should the Members make a resolution to defer the issuing and publishing of notices, the following steps must be completed:

1. The Members must notify the Chief Executive of the decision of the Planning Authority to defer the sending and publishing of the notices, giving the reasons therefor.
2. Notification of the resolution shall be published by the Planning Authority in a newspaper circulating in the area of the LAP no later than 2 weeks after the

resolution is passed and the notice of resolution shall be made available for inspection by members of the public during office hours of the Planning Authority and made available in electronic form including by placing the notice on the authority's website.



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**Tom Enright**

**Chief Executive**

## APPENDIX 1

# STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

# STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

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FOR  
**PROPOSED EXTENSION OF DURATION**  
OF THE  
**CURRENT**  
**GOREY LOCAL AREA PLAN 2017-2023**

**for:**

**Wexford County Council**

County Hall  
Carricklawn  
Wexford



**by:**

**CAAS Ltd.**

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**APRIL 2022**

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# Section 1 Introduction and Background

## 1.1 Introduction

This is the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report for the proposed extension of duration of the current Gorey Local Area Plan 2017-2023.

SEA is the formal, systematic evaluation of the likely significant environmental effects of implementing a plan or programme, alteration to a plan or programme, etc., before a decision is made to adopt it. The SEA Directive<sup>1</sup> requires, inter alia, that SEA is undertaken for certain plans, programmes or alterations to these. Screening is the process for deciding whether a particular plan, programme, proposal, etc., other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant SEA.

The purpose of this report is to inform: whether the proposal to extend would, or would not, be likely to have significant environmental effects, taking into account relevant criteria set out under the SEA Directive; and therefore would, or would not, necessitate the undertaking of SEA.

This report should be read in conjunction with the proposal to extend the duration of the current Gorey Local Area Plan and all other associated documents including the:

- Gorey Local Area Plan 2017-2023;
- SEA Environmental Report for the Gorey Local Area Plan 2017-2023;
- Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report for the Gorey Local Area Plan 2017-2023;
- AA Screening Report for the proposal to extend.

## 1.2 Proposal to Extend

Wexford County Council intend to extend the lifetime of the Gorey Local Area Plan 2017-2023 for a period of three years. Although the proposal to extend is being screened for the need to undertake SEA and/or AA, it is acknowledged that there is no provision under national legislation for the screening of Extension of Duration of Local Area Plans, however; Wexford County Council consider that it is appropriate to undertake the screening exercises.

This Screening for Strategic Environment Assessment Report and accompanying Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report examine the impact of the proposed extension of duration of the existing Plan with regard to potential effects on the environment (Strategic Environment Assessment) and the integrity of European sites (Appropriate Assessment).

## 1.3 Consultations

As part of the screening process, environmental authorities<sup>2</sup> were notified that a submission or observation in relation to whether the proposal to extend would, or would not, be likely to have significant effects on the environment may be made to the Council.

Two submissions were received, one from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and one from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC). The issues raised in these submissions are detailed and responded to under Table 1.

<sup>1</sup> Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of Ministers, of 27<sup>th</sup> June 2001, on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment

<sup>2</sup> The following environmental authorities were notified: Environmental Protection Agency; Department of Environment, Climate and Communications; Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine; Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage; Waterford City and County Council; Kilkenny County Council; Carlow County Council; and Wicklow County Council.

Furthermore, responses were received from the Kilkenny County Council and the Geological Survey of Ireland (part of Department of Environment, Climate and Communications) indicating that they had no specific comment or observation to make at the time of screening consultation.

**Table 1 Response to Submissions**

Ref.	Issue raised in submission	SEA Response
<b>Environmental Protection Agency Submission</b>		
<b>EPA 1</b>	<p>We acknowledge your notice, dated 12th April 2022, in relation to the Extension of Duration of Gorey Local Area Plan 2017-2023 (the 'Plan') and associated Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening. I note that environmental authorities are usually permitted the normal 4-week period to make submissions. However, having regard to the non-statutory nature of this consultation and your admission of staffing restrictions we are agreeable to proceeding as normal.</p> <p>The EPA is one of the statutory environmental authorities under the SEA Regulations. In our role as an SEA environmental authority, we focus on promoting the full and transparent integration of the findings of the Environmental Assessment into the Plan and advocating that the key environmental challenges for Ireland are addressed as relevant and appropriate to the plan. Our functions as an SEA environmental authority do not include approving or enforcing SEAs or plans.</p> <p>As a priority, we focus our efforts on reviewing and commenting on key sector plans. For land use plans at county and local level, we provide a 'self-service approach' via our guidance document 'SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans – EPA Recommendations and Resources'. This document is updated regularly and sets out our key recommendations for integrating environmental considerations into Local Authority land use plans. In finalising your SEA screening determination, we suggest that you take this guidance document into account and incorporate the relevant recommendations as relevant and appropriate to the Plan.</p>	<p>Noted. The SEA Screening process is taking the guidance document 'SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans – EPA Recommendations and Resources' into account.</p>
<b>EPA 2</b>	<p>Proposed SEA Determination</p> <p>We note your proposed determination regarding the need for SEA of the Plan.</p> <p>Guidance on the SEA process, including an SEA pack and checklist available on our website at: <a href="https://www.epa.ie/our-services/monitoring--assessment/assessment/strategic-environmental-assessment/sea-resources-and-guidance/">https://www.epa.ie/our-services/monitoring--assessment/assessment/strategic-environmental-assessment/sea-resources-and-guidance/</a>.</p> <p>We recommend that you take the available guidance into account in finalising your SEA Screening Determination and incorporate the relevant recommendations as relevant and appropriate to the Plan.</p>	<p>No proposed determination has been prepared to date.</p> <p>Following completion of this report, Wexford County Council will make a determination as to whether implementing the extended Plan would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.</p> <p>The criteria set out under Annex II of the SEA Directive (Schedule 2A of the SEA Regulations) and the EPA's Guidance on the SEA process are being taken into account through the SEA Screening process.</p>
<b>EPA 3</b>	<p>Sustainable Development</p> <p>In proposing and in implementing the Plan should ensure, that the Plan is consistent with the need for proper planning and sustainable development. Adequate and appropriate critical service infrastructure should be in place, or required to be put in place, to service any development proposed and authorised during the lifetime of the Plan.</p> <p>In considering the Plan, Wexford County Council should take into account the need to align with national commitments on climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as incorporating any relevant recommendations in sectoral, regional and local climate adaptation plans.</p> <p>Wexford County Council should also ensure that the Plan aligns with key relevant higher-level plans and programmes and is consistent with the relevant objectives and policy commitments of the National Planning Framework and the Southern/Northern Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.</p>	<p>The Plan provides for the proper planning and sustainable development of the town of Gorey. Once adopted in 2022, the new County Development Plan, which is being subject to separate SEA, SFRA and AA processes, will provide for the proper planning and sustainable development of the County, including the town of Gorey from 2022 until 2028. Once adopted, the new County Development Plan will take primacy over the Local Area Plan, including in any instances where differences in the provisions of the Local Area Plan and the County Development Plan.</p>
<b>EPA 4</b>	<p>State of the Environment Report – Ireland's Environment 2020</p> <p>In preparing the Plan and associated SEA screening, the recommendations, key issues and challenges described in our published State of the Environment Report Ireland's Environment – An Integrated Assessment 2020 should be considered, as relevant and appropriate to the Plan. It should also be taken into account, in preparing the Plan.</p>	<p>Noted. This document is being taken into account through the SEA Screening process. The Plan is already prepared and in force.</p>
<b>EPA 5</b>	<p>Available Guidance &amp; Resources</p> <p>Our website contains various SEA resources and guidance, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SEA process guidance and checklists</li> <li>- Inventory of spatial datasets relevant to SEA</li> <li>- topic specific SEA guidance (including Good practice note on Cumulative Effects Assessment (EPA, 2020), Guidance on SEA Statements and Monitoring (EPA, 2020), Integrating climatic factors into SEA (EPA, 2019), Developing and Assessing Alternatives in SEA (EPA, 2015), and Integrated Biodiversity Impact Assessment (EPA, 2012))</li> </ul> <p>You can access these guidance notes and other resources at: <a href="https://www.epa.ie/our-">https://www.epa.ie/our-</a></p>	<p>Noted. These tools, applications, guidance and resources are being taken into account through the SEA Screening process.</p>



# SEA Screening Report

Ref.	Issue raised in submission	SEA Response
	<p>services/monitoring--assessment/assessment/strategic-environmental-assessment/sea-topic-and-sector-specific-guidance-/</p> <p>Environmental Sensitivity Mapping (ESM) WebTool</p> <p>This new tool was launched recently by the EPA. It is a new decision support tool to assist SEA and planning processes in Ireland. It is available at <a href="http://www.enviromap.ie">www.enviromap.ie</a>. The tool brings together over 100 datasets and allows users to create plan-specific environmental sensitivity maps. These maps can help planners examine environmental considerations, anticipate potential land-use conflicts, and help identify suitable development locations while also protecting the environment.</p> <p>EPA SEA WebGIS Tool</p> <p>Our SEA WebGIS Tool has been updated recently and is now publicly available at <a href="https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/SEA">https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/SEA</a>. It allows public authorities to produce an indicative report on key aspects of the environment in a specific geographic area. It is intended to assist public authorities in SEA screening and scoping exercises.</p> <p>EPA WFD Application</p> <p>Our WFD Application provides access to water quality and catchment data from the national WFD monitoring programme. The Application is accessed through EDEN <a href="https://wfd.edenireland.ie/">https://wfd.edenireland.ie/</a> and is available to public agencies. Publicly available data can be accessed via the <a href="http://www.catchments.ie">www.catchments.ie</a> website.</p> <p>EPA AA GeoTool</p> <p>Our AA GeoTool application has been developed in partnership with the NPWS. It allows users to select a location, specify a search area and gather available information for each European Site within the area. It is available at: <a href="https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/AAGeoTool">https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/AAGeoTool</a>.</p>	
<b>EPA 6</b>	<p>Future amendments to the Plan</p> <p>Where changes to the Plan are made prior to finalisation, or where modifications to the Plan are proposed following its adoption, these should be screened for potential for likely significant effects in accordance with the criteria set out in Schedule 2A of the SEA Regulations (S.I. No. 436 of 2004).</p>	The Plan is already prepared, adopted and in force.
<b>EPA 7</b>	<p>Appropriate Assessment</p> <p>You should ensure that the Plan complies with the requirements of the Habitats Directive where relevant. Where Appropriate Assessment is required, the key findings and recommendations should be incorporated into the SEA and the Plan.</p>	The Plan complies with the requirements of the Habitats Directive. The key findings and recommendations of the AA process that was undertaken for the Plan were incorporated into the SEA and the Plan.
<b>EPA 8</b>	<p>Environmental Authorities</p> <p>Under the SEA Regulations, prior to making your SEA determination you should consult with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Protection Agency;</li> <li>• Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage</li> <li>• Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications; and</li> <li>• Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine.</li> </ul> <p>any adjoining planning authority whose area is contiguous to the area of a planning authority which prepared a draft plan, proposed variation or local area plan.</p>	Noted. The relevant environmental authorities have been consulted with through the SEA Screening process.
<b>EPA 9</b>	<p>SEA Determination</p> <p>As soon as practicable after making your determination as to whether SEA is required or not, you should make a copy of your decision, including, as appropriate, the reasons for not requiring an environmental assessment, available for public inspection in your offices and on your website. You should also send a copy of your determination to the relevant environmental authorities consulted.</p>	Noted. Following the making of the determination, a copy of the decision, including, the reasons for not requiring an environmental assessment, will be made available for public inspection in the Council's offices and on the Council's website. A copy of the determination will also be sent to the environmental authorities consulted.
<b>EPA 10</b>	<p>If you have any queries or need further information in relation to this submission, please contact me directly. I would be grateful if you could send an email confirming receipt of this submission to: <a href="mailto:sea@epa.ie">sea@epa.ie</a>.</p>	None.
<b>Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications Submission</b>		
<b>DECC 1</b>	<p>In respect of waste in the within documentation, we would be obliged if the Local Authority would consult directly with their respective Regional Waste Management Planning Office regarding development of the final plans.</p>	Noted. The Local Area Plan is already in force and was adopted in 2017, following an extensive public consultation exercise. The proposal under consideration is to extend the duration of the existing Plan.

## Section 2 SEA Screening

### 2.1 Introduction

The section examines whether the proposal to extend would be likely to have significant environmental effects (and thus would warrant the undertaking of SEA). This examination takes account of relevant criteria set out Annex II of the SEA Directive (see Section 2.4).

### 2.2 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

Appropriate Assessment (AA) is an impact assessment process concerning *Natura 2000*, or *European*, sites - these sites have been designated or proposed for designation by virtue of their ecological importance. The Habitats Directive<sup>3</sup> and the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) provide the requirement to screen for effects on European Sites. If the effects are deemed to be *significant, potentially significant or uncertain* then Stage 2 AA must be undertaken.

The proposal to extend the duration of the current Plan has been subject to a Screening for AA process in order to establish whether or not AA must be undertaken. The conclusion of the Screening for AA process is that the proposal will not affect the integrity of any European site.

### 2.3 Screening Analysis

The analysis of the proposal to extend the duration is undertaken with reference to the main interactions with Strategic Environmental Objectives<sup>4</sup> (SEOs) and associated Guiding Principles. SEOs are taken from the current Gorey Local Area Plan SEA and are detailed in full at Table 2.1. The range of interactions identified with symbols are detailed on Table 2.2.

Using the SEO/Guiding Principles codes (Table 2.1) and interaction symbols (Table 2.2), Table 2.3 examines whether each relevant part of the proposal to extend would be likely to have significant environmental effects (and thus would warrant the undertaking of SEA).

Table 2.3 is supplemented by Table 2.4 which provides details on:

- The likely significant effects of implementing Plan, if unmitigated;
- Key mitigation measures in force (under the current Gorey Local Area Plan, the Current County Development Plan to be replaced and the emerging County Development Plan<sup>5</sup>) that any projects within the Plan area would be required to comply with; and
- Residual non-significant adverse effects arising from the extended Plan.

Effects encompass the full range of effects<sup>6</sup>, including those arising cumulatively – such as those potentially arising as a result of interactions with other plans and programmes.

The examination of Proposal also takes into account relevant criteria set out under Annex II of the SEA Directive '*Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in Article 3(5)*' (see Section 2.4).

The current Gorey Local Area Plan sits within a hierarchy of strategic actions such as plans and programmes and is subject to a number of high-level environmental protection and management policies and objectives with which the implementation of the Plan must comply (including those detailed in

<sup>3</sup> Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora

<sup>4</sup> Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) are methodological measures developed from policies which generally govern environmental protection objectives established at international, Community or Member State level and are used as standards against which the provisions of the Plan can be considered in order to help identify whether any provisions would be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

<sup>5</sup> Draft, subject to finalisation as part of that Plan-preparation process

<sup>6</sup> These include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects

Appendix I). The Plan is already being implemented within areas that have existing plans and programmes for a range of sectors at a range of levels (e.g. National, River Basin District, Regional, County and Local) that are already subject to more specific higher and lower tier SEA and AA. The implementation of the Plan and the proposal to extend it are consistent with such plans, programmes and legislation and may, in turn, guide lower level strategic actions. In this regard, Appendix I includes statutory provisions, plans, policies and strategies that set the context within which the implementation of the current Plan and associated proposal to extend the duration of the Plan are framed.

**Table 2.1 Strategic Environmental Objectives and associated Guiding Principles**

Environmental Component	Code	Guiding Principle	Strategic Environmental Objectives
<b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b>	<b>B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No net contribution to biodiversity losses or deterioration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure compliance with the Habitats and Birds Directives with regard to the protection of European Sites/Annexed habitats and species<sup>7</sup></li> <li>To ensure compliance with Article 10 of the Habitats Directive with regard to the management of features of the landscape which - by virtue of their linear and continuous structure or their function - act as stepping stones - are of significant importance for wild fauna and flora and/or essential for the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species</li> <li>To avoid significant impacts on relevant habitats, species, environmental features or other sustaining resources in designated sites including Wildlife Sites<sup>8</sup> and to ensure compliance with the Wildlife Acts 1976-2010 with regard to the protection of species listed on Schedule 5 of the principal Act</li> </ul>
<b>Population and Human Health</b>	<b>PHH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve quality of life for all ages and abilities based on high-quality, serviced, well connected and sustainable residential, working, educational and recreational environments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To protect populations and human health from exposure to incompatible landuses</li> </ul>
<b>Soil</b>	<b>S</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure the long-term sustainable management of land</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To avoid damage to the hydrogeological and ecological function of the soil resource</li> </ul>
<b>Water</b>	<b>W</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protection, improvement and sustainable management of the water resource</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To maintain and improve, where possible, the quality and status of surface waters</li> <li>To prevent pollution and contamination of ground water</li> <li>To comply as appropriate with the provisions of the Flood Risk Management Guidelines</li> </ul>
<b>Material Assets</b>	<b>MA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainable and efficient use of natural resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To serve new development with adequate and appropriate wastewater treatment</li> <li>To serve new development with adequate drinking water that is both wholesome and clean</li> <li>To reduce waste volumes, minimise waste to landfill and increase recycling and reuse</li> </ul>
<b>Air and Climatic Factors</b>	<b>C</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support clean air policies that reduce the impact of air pollution on the environment and public health</li> <li>Achieving transition to a competitive, low carbon, climate-resilient economy that is cognisant of environmental impacts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce travel related emissions to air and to encourage modal change from car to more sustainable forms of transport</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	<b>CH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safeguard cultural heritage features and their settings through responsible design and positioning of development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To protect archaeological heritage including entries to the Record of Monuments and Places and/or their context</li> <li>To protect architectural heritage including entries to the Record of Protected Structures and their context</li> </ul>
<b>Landscape</b>	<b>L</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect and enhance the landscape character</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To avoid significant adverse impacts on the landscape</li> </ul>

**Table 2.2 Main Interactions and associated Symbols**

Symbol	Main Interactions Identified
+	Potential beneficial environmental effects that would arise from the existing Plan in combination with the wider planning framework and the extension are present already and would be further contributed towards for a maximum period of three years
-	Potential adverse effects that would arise from the existing Plan in combination with the wider planning framework and the three year (maximum) extension are present already and were envisaged and mitigated by the original SEA of the existing Plan
*	Please also refer to Section 2.2

<sup>7</sup> 'Annexed habitats and species' refer to those listed under Annex I, II & IV of the EU Habitats Directive and Annex I of the EU Birds Directive.

<sup>8</sup> The Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended defines a 'wildlife site', which includes proposed Natural Heritage Areas.

**Table 2.3 SEA Screening Analysis of Proposal to Extend Duration**

Description of Proposal	SEO/Guiding Principle Codes (see Table 2.2 for main interactions)								Additional SEA Screening Comments
	B	PHH	S	W	MA	AC	CH	L	
Wexford County Council intend to extend the lifetime of the Gorey Local Area Plan 2017-2023 for a period of three years.	-/+*	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	<p>Although the proposal to extend is being screened for the need to undertake SEA and/or AA, it is acknowledged that there is no provision under national legislation for the screening of Extension of Duration of Local Area Plans, however; Wexford County Council consider that it is appropriate to undertake the screening exercises.</p> <p>In proposing to extend the life of the existing Local Area Plan by a period of up to three years, Wexford County Council has confirmed that it is satisfied that the existing Plan remains generally consistent with the aims and objectives of the relevant statutory national and regional frameworks and strategies, namely the National Planning Framework 2040 and the Southern Assembly's Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2020-2032, and that the Plan, in-combination with the wider planning framework, would continue to provide a framework for the proper planning and sustainable development of Gorey.</p> <p>This wider planning framework includes the existing County Development Plan adopted in 2013 provides for the proper planning and sustainable development of the County, including the town of Gorey and takes primacy over the Local Area Plan, including in any instances where differences in the provisions of the Local Area Plan and the County Development Plan. Once adopted in 2022, the new County Development Plan, which is being subject to separate SEA, SFRA and AA processes, will provide for the proper planning and sustainable development of the County, including the town of Gorey from 2022 until 2028. Once adopted, the new County Development Plan will take primacy over the Local Area Plan, including in any instances where differences in the provisions of the Local Area Plan and the County Development Plan. Furthermore, the LAP must be varied within one year where it is inconsistent with the County Development Plan. This will ensure the LAP is fully consistent with the NPF/RSES.</p> <p>In implementing the Plan, the Plan and wider planning framework require that adequate and appropriate critical service infrastructure is in place to service any development proposed and authorised. It is not envisaged that any development will be permitted on lands identified with a particular land use zoning objective that would exceed the capacity of piped water infrastructure operated by Irish Water. In addition, Plan implementation must ensure that appropriate phasing is followed and that compact and sequential development is achieved.</p> <p>In considering the extended period of the Plan, Wexford County Council has considered the need to align with national commitments on climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as incorporating any relevant recommendations in sectoral, regional and local climate adaptation plans. Such matters are contributed towards by the existing Plan and the in-force County Development Plan and are being progressed by the Local Authority in tandem with the review process of the County Development Plan.</p> <p>Furthermore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apart from the lifespan of the Plan, the proposal does not affect the provisions of the current Plan that are already in force;</li> <li>• The Plan sits within a hierarchy of strategic actions (including those detailed in Appendix I) that provide a number of high-level environmental protection and management policies and objectives with which implementation of the Plan must comply;</li> <li>• The proposal to extend the Plan is for a maximum period of three years.</li> </ul> <p>Potential adverse effects that would arise from the existing Plan in combination with the wider planning framework and the extension are present already and were envisaged and mitigated by original SEA for the Plan. Projects within the Plan area are required to comply with mitigation measures under the current Gorey Local Area Plan, the Current County Development Plan to be replaced and the emerging County Development Plan. The presence of the potential adverse effects will be extended by a further three years, however; they are likely to be present under the County Development Plan in any case, was the Local Area Plan to expire. Any future development under the extended Plan would have to be subject to the various provisions of the existing Local Area Plan and the relevant County Development Plan in force at that time that relate to sustainable development and the protection and management of the environment (as well as the other provisions from the hierarchy of strategic actions detailed in Appendix I) – see Table 2.4. Considering these provisions, any residual adverse environmental effects occurring would not be significant.</p> <p>Positive effects that would arise from the existing Local Area Plan in combination with the wider planning framework and the extension are present already, were envisaged by the original SEA of the existing Plan and would be further contributed towards. In this way, the extended Plan would further contribute towards the environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development that is already provided for by the current Plan. The presence of these positive effects will be extended by up to three years, however; they are likely to be present under the County Development Plan in any case, was the Local Area Plan to expire.</p> <p>Taking into account all of the above, the Proposal to Extend would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects. Consequently, SEA is not required.</p>

**Table 2.4 Detail of effects<sup>9</sup>, if unmitigated, mitigation measures for potential effects and residual adverse effects**

Environmental Component	Environmental Effects, in combination with the wider planning framework			SEO/ Guiding Principle Codes	Mitigation Measures included in the following:		
	Significant Positive Effect, likely to occur	Potentially Significant Adverse Environmental Effects, if unmitigated	Likely Residual Adverse Non-Significant Effects		Gorey Local Area Plan 2017-2023	Current County Development Plan to be replaced	Emerging County Development Plan 2022-2028, draft subject to finalisation
<b>Biodiversity and Flora and Fauna</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribution towards protection of ecology (including designated sites, ecological connectivity, habitats) by facilitating development of lands within and adjacent to the town that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond.</li> <li>Contribution towards the maintenance of existing green infrastructure and associated ecosystem services, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats.</li> <li>Contribution towards protection and/or maintenance of biodiversity and flora and fauna by contributing towards the protection of natural capital including the environmental vectors of air, water and soil. Biodiversity and flora and fauna includes biodiversity in designated sites (including European Sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species (including birds and bats), listed/protected species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats (including terrestrial and aquatic habitats), and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna – including terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity and flora and fauna.</li> </ul>	<p>Arising from both construction and operation of development and associated infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss of/damage to biodiversity in designated sites (including European Sites and Wildlife Sites) and Annexed habitats and species, listed species, ecological connectivity and non-designated habitats; and disturbance to biodiversity and flora and fauna;</li> <li>Habitat loss, fragmentation and deterioration, including patch size and edge effects; and</li> <li>Disturbance (e.g. due to noise and lighting along transport corridors) and displacement of protected species such as birds and bats.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss of an extent of non-protected habitats and species arising from the replacement of semi-natural land covers with artificial surfaces.</li> <li>Losses or damage to ecology (these would be in compliance with relevant legislation).</li> </ul>	<b>BFF</b>	<p>Objective AA01 The Council will ensure that any plan/project and any associated works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any Natura 2000 site(s) and that the requirements of Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where a plan/project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site or there is uncertainty with regard to effects, it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan/project will proceed only after it has been ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where, in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan/project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest.</p> <p>Objective NH01 To protect existing ecological networks and wildlife corridors and provide for new and enhanced connections, where necessary, between fragmented areas. In this regard, the Council will carry out an ecological survey of the plan area and map the identified ecological networks and wildlife and any gaps therein.</p> <p>Objective NH02 To promote best practice in the control of invasive species and support measures for the prevention and/or eradication of invasive species as appropriate and as opportunities and resources allow.</p> <p>Objective NH03 To raise awareness in relation to invasive species, including making landowners and developers aware of best practice guidance in relation to the control of invasive species and encouraging them to adhere to same and, to ensure, in so far as possible, that proposals for development do not lead to the spread of invasive species.</p> <p>Objective NH04 To ensure that proposals for development do not lead to the spread or introduction of invasive species. If developments are proposed on sites where invasive species are or were previously present, the applicants will be required to submit a control and management programme for the particular invasive species as part of the planning process.</p>	<p>Objective NH01 To conserve and protect the integrity of sites designated for their habitat/wildlife or geological/geomorphological importance and prohibit development which would damage or threaten the integrity of these sites, including SACs, cSACs, SPAs, NHAs, pNHAs, Nature Reserves, and Refuges for Fauna.</p> <p>Objective NH04 To ensure the protection and conservation of areas, sites and species and ecological networks/corridors of local biodiversity value outside the designated sites throughout the county.</p> <p>Objective NH05 To ensure that traditional field boundaries, ponds or small woods which provide important ecological networks are protected. Where such features exist on land which is to be developed the applicant should demonstrate that the design of the development has resulted in the retention of these features insofar as is possible and that the existing biodiversity value of the site has been protected and enhanced.</p> <p>Objective NH07 To protect woodlands and hedgerows from damage and/or degradation and work to prevent the disruption of the connectivity of the woodlands and hedgerows of the county.</p> <p>Objective NH08 To ensure, where appropriate, applications for development include proposals for native planting and leave a suitable ecological buffer zone between the development works and areas or features of ecological importance. Where hedgerows are required to be removed, the applicant/developer will be required to reinstate the hedgerows with a suitable replacement of native species to the satisfaction of the Council.</p> <p>Objective NH10 To implement the actions identified in the Draft County Wexford Biodiversity Action Plan 2012-2017, or any subsequent plan, in partnership with all relevant parties and stakeholders.</p> <p>Objective NH11 To complete the mapping of ecological networks/corridors of local biodiversity value outside of designated sites and afford appropriate protection to areas of ecological importance as required.</p> <p>Objective NH15 To ensure that natural heritage and biodiversity inform the preparation of Local Area Plans and to identify, protect and manage biodiversity through these Plans.</p>	<p>Objective EM02 To ensure that planning permission will only be granted for a development proposal that, either individually or in combination with existing and/or proposed plans or projects, will not have a significant effect on a European site, or where such a development proposal is likely or might have such a significant effect (either alone or in combination), the planning authority will, as required by law, carry out an appropriate assessment as per requirements of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC of the 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, as transposed into Irish legislation. Only after having ascertained that the development proposal will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site, will the planning authority agree to the development and impose appropriate mitigation measures in the form of planning conditions. A development proposal which could adversely affect the integrity of a European site may only be permitted in exceptional circumstances, as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive as transposed into Irish legislation.</p> <p>Objective EM04 To ensure that plans, including land use plans, will only be adopted, if they either individually or in combination with existing and/or proposed plans or projects, will not have a significant effect on a European, or where such a plan is likely or might have such a significant effect (either alone or in combination), Wexford County Council will, as required by law, carry out an appropriate assessment as per requirements of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC of the 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, as transposed into Irish legislation. Only after having ascertained that the plan will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site, will Wexford County Council adopt the plan, incorporating any necessary mitigation measures. A plan which could adversely affect the integrity of a European site may only be adopted in exceptional circumstances, as provided for in Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive as transposed into Irish legislation.</p> <p>Objective NH04 To protect the integrity of sites designated for their habitat and species importance and prohibit development which would damage or threaten the integrity of these sites. Such sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and candidate SACs, Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) and proposed NHAs, Nature Reserves, Refuges for Fauna and RAMSAR sites. To protect protected species wherever they occur</p>
<b>Population and Human Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion of economic growth to encourage retention of working age population and funding of sustainable development and environmental</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential adverse effects arising from flood events.</li> <li>Potential</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential interactions with residual effects on environmental</li> </ul>	<b>PHH</b>	<p>Objective EM03 To ensure the implementation of the specific guidance on radon prevention measures for new homes as contained within the existing Building Regulations (including any</p>	<p>Objective ED15 To seek to ensure that site security and health and safety is given high priority through the imposition and enforcement of conditions with regard to site security and warning signs. The Council will also report apparent dangerous situations or practices to</p>	<p>Objective CS02 To ensure that new residential development in all settlements complies with the population and housing allocation targets and the principles set out in the Core Strategy and Settlement Development Strategy, in so far as practicable.</p>

<sup>9</sup> Environmental effects of implementing the Plan, including in combination with the wider planning framework

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	<p>protection and management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribution towards appropriate provision of infrastructure and services to existing population and planned growth by facilitating compact development of lands within and adjacent to the town that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond.</li> <li>• Contribution towards the protection of human health by facilitating development of lands within and adjacent to the town that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond.</li> <li>• Contributes towards protection of human health as a result of contributing towards the protection of natural capital including environmental vectors, including air and water.</li> </ul>	<p>interactions if effects arising from environmental vectors.</p>	<p>vectors – please refer to residual adverse effects under “Soil”, “Water” and “Air and Climatic Factors” below.</p>		<p>updated/superseding regulations that may be published within the lifetime of this Plan).</p>	<p>the appropriate authorities.</p> <p>Objective ED19 To encourage and facilitate the diversification of the agricultural economy through farm diversification as defined by the Wexford Local Development's Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 provided that this does not negatively affect public health, the character and the amenity of the surrounding area or Natura 2000 sites and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.</p> <p>Objective WS06 Where connection to an existing public water supply is not possible or the existing supply system does not have sufficient capacity, the provision of a private water supply will be considered where it can be demonstrated that the proposed water supply meets the standards set out in EU and national legislation and guidance, would not be prejudicial to public health or would not impact on the source of an existing supply or cumulatively on the Natura 2000 network.</p> <p>Objective COMAH02 To consult with and have regard to the technical advice of the Health and Safety Authority when preparing development plans and local area plans and assessing planning applications where the Major Accidents Directive and any associated regulations are relevant.</p>	<p>Objective CS03 To ensure that sufficient zoned lands are available to satisfy the planned population and housing growth in those settlements over the lifetime of the Plan.</p> <p>Objective CS08 To prepare Local Transport Plans for the Key Towns and Large Towns which focus on the development of town bus networks, rail services, the development of inter-model transport hubs, improvements to cycling and walking infrastructure and rural transport services into towns and seek investments for the sustainable transport measures set out in these plans.</p> <p>Objective CS15 To strengthen the viability of our rural towns and villages and to support the retention of essential rural services such as post offices, shops and medical facilities.</p> <p>Objective CS21 To work with public infrastructure providers such as Irish Water and local communities to provide serviced sites with appropriate infrastructure to attract people to build their own homes and live in the designated Large Villages and Small Villages in the county subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the proper planning and sustainable development of the county.</p> <p>Objective SH01 To ensure that new residential developments contribute to and represent sustainable neighbourhoods which are inclusive and responsive to the physical or cultural needs of those who use them, are well-located relative to the social, community, commercial and administrative services and are integrated with the community within which it will be located.</p> <p>Objective SH16 To implement the objectives in the County Wexford Housing Strategy 2021-2027 in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).</p> <p>Objective EM03 To ensure that proposed plans and programmes comply with the requirements of the SEA Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, as transposed in Irish law under national legislation.</p> <p>Objective EM05 To implement the provisions of EU and National legislation and other relevant legislative requirements on protecting and improving surface and ground water quality, air quality and climate, and on reducing adverse noise and light nuisance, as appropriate and in conjunction with all relevant stakeholders in the interests of the protection of the environment, public health and the sustainable development of the county.</p> <p>Objective TV02 To promote a healthy County by improving physical and social environments to create vibrant, accessible, healthy and sustainable places to live work and relax.</p> <p>Objective IS05 To provide water treatment facilities to safeguard public health.</p> <p>Objective SC01 To facilitate the development of healthy sustainable communities where people can live, work and enjoy access to a wide range of community, health and educational facilities suitable for all ages, needs and abilities.</p> <p>Objective SC06 To support the entitlement of all members of the community to enjoy a high quality living environment and to support local communities, the Health Authorities and other bodies involved in the provision of facilities for groups with specific design/ planning needs.</p> <p>Objective ROS01 To support the implementation of the Get Ireland Active-the National Physical Activity Plan for Ireland 2015-2020, the Wexford Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021 and the Sports Active Wexford Strategic Plan 2017-2022 and any updated version of these plans as</p>
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							<p>a means of promoting physical activity and active living in order to enhance health, wellbeing and social inclusion subject to the objectives of the County Development Plan.</p> <p>Objective ROS07 To support investment in the on-going maintenance and enhancement of existing public open space facilities, and support the provision of new public parks, green space corridors and other public open spaces in tandem with planned population growth to create green, healthy settlements throughout the county.</p> <p>Objective ROS19 To ensure that a range of play opportunities will be available for all children, particularly children who are marginalised, disadvantaged or who have special needs.</p> <p>Objective ROS33 To facilitate sustainable outdoor recreation in the form of walking and cycling at appropriate locations in the county and maximise the recreational and tourist potential of walking and cycling routes subject to compliance with the Habitats Directive, the protection of natural heritage, the character of rural areas, the amenities of host communities and normal planning and environmental criteria.</p>
<b>Soil</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Contribution towards the protection of soils (including those used for agriculture) and designated sites of geological heritage by facilitating development of lands within and adjacent to the town that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond.</li><li>Contribution towards the protection of the environment from contamination the highest standards of remediation, and where appropriate to consultations with the EPA and other relevant bodies, will be required to resolve any instances of environmental pollution created by contaminated land.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Potential adverse effects on the hydrogeological and ecological function of the soil resource, including as a result of development on contaminated lands.</li><li>Potential for riverbank erosion.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Loss of an extent of soil function arising from the replacement of semi-natural land covers with artificial surfaces.</li><li>Riverbank erosion will continue to occur naturally over time and is likely to be enhanced by climate change.</li></ul>	<b>S</b>	<p>Objective EM02 To ensure that adequate soil protection measures are undertaken where appropriate. Adequate and appropriate investigations shall be carried out into the nature and extent of any soil and groundwater contamination and the risks associated with site development work, where brownfield development is proposed. The EPA's publication Code of Practice: Environmental Risk Assessment for Unregulated Waste Disposal Sites (2007) shall be taken into account as relevant by proposals for development within or adjacent to old landfill sites.</p>	<p>Objective HL01 To carefully consider the land use and proposals for developments within 250 metres of identified historic landfill sites in accordance with the provisions of the document Protection of New Buildings and Occupants from Landfill Gas (Department of the Environment and Local Government, 1994) and any subsequent updated version of this document.</p> <p>Objective HL02 To implement remediation plans for the identified historic landfills in the County.</p>	<p>Objective HL02 To implement remediation plans for the identified historic landfills in the county.</p> <p>Objective ED102 To ensure that applications for horticulture related development include adequate measures to mitigate impacts on soil water contamination, adopt sustainable practices in terms of soil and peat use and use of management of pesticides and insecticides and adopt sustainable practices for the sustainable management of water from roofs by incorporating sustainable drainage systems and retention areas within the developments.</p> <p>Objective NH06 To recognise the importance of recommended Geological Natural Heritage Areas, proposed Natural Heritage Areas and County Geological Sites and protect the character and integrity of these sites where appropriate. The Council will consult Geological Survey of Ireland where a development is proposed that may impact on geological sites.</p>
<b>Water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Contribution towards the protection of water by facilitating development of lands within and adjacent to the town that have relatively low levels of environmental sensitivities and are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop more sensitive, less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond.</li><li>Contributions towards the protection of water resources including the status of surface and groundwaters and water-based designations.</li><li>Contribution towards flood risk management and appropriate drainage.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Potential adverse effects upon the status of water bodies and entries to the WFD Register of Protected Areas (ecological and human value), arising from changes in quality, flow and/or morphology.</li><li>Increase in flood risk and associated effects associated with flood events.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Any increased loadings as a result of development to comply with the River Basin Management Plan.</li><li>Flood related risks remain due to uncertainty with regard to extreme weather events – however such risks will be mitigated by measures that have been</li></ul>	<b>W</b>	<p>Objective FRM01 To ensure that all development proposals in the plan area comply with the requirements of 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management-Guidelines for Planning Authorities (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government and Office of Public Works, 2009), as amended by Circular PL2/2014', and any subsequent review or other future update to the Guidelines.</p> <p>Objective FRM02 To have regard to the flood maps and the Flood Risk Management Plan prepared for Gorey Town and Environs as part of the South-East Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Study (CFRAM) and to ensure that development proposals comply with any relevant requirements set out therein.</p> <p>Objective FRM03 To require planning applications for development proposals within, incorporating or adjoining areas at moderate (Flood Zone B) to high (Flood Zone</p>	<p>Objective ED21 To support the development of the fisheries and aquaculture industry and support its diversification at appropriate locations, having regard to the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive, the relevant River Basin Management Plans and the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective WS01 To protect existing and potential water resources for the county, in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), the South-East River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015 and any updated version, the Pollution Reduction Programmes for designated shellfish waters, the provisions of the Groundwater Protection Scheme for the county and any other protection plans for water supply resources.</p> <p>Objective WW01 To ensure that all wastewater generated is collected, treated and discharged after treatment in a safe and sustainable manner, having regard to the standards and requirements set out in EU and national legislation and guidance and subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction</p>	<p>Objective WS01 To protect existing and potential water resources for the county in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), the National River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021 and any updated version, the Pollution Reduction Programmes for designated shellfish waters, the provisions of the county Groundwater Protection Scheme and any other protection plans for water supply resources</p> <p>Objective WM11 To protect and maintain the excellent quality of 'High' status water bodies and to raise awareness and provide support for land owners in these areas under the Blue Dot Catchment Programme established by the National River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021.</p> <p>Objective WQ01 To protect existing and potential water resources for the county, in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/ EC), the National River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 and any updated version, the Pollution Reduction Programmes for designated shellfish waters, the provisions of a Groundwater Protection Scheme for the county and any other protection plans for water supply sources, with an aim to improving all water quality.</p>

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			integrated into the Plan.	<p>A) risk of fluvial flooding to carry out a site-specific and appropriately detailed flood risk assessment. The site-specified flood risk assessment shall be carried out by a suitably qualified and indemnified professional and in accordance with the requirements of the Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines For Planning Authorities (DEHLG, OPW 2009).</p> <p>Objective FRM04 To ensure riparian buffer zones are created between all watercourses and any development for a minimum of 10m to mitigate against flood risk. The extent of these buffer zones shall be determined in consultation with a qualified ecologist and following a Flood Risk Assessment. Any hard landscaping proposals shall be located outside of these buffer zones. In considering the appropriate width, the Council will have regard to 'Planning for Watercourses in the Urban Environment Guidelines' (Shannon Regional Fisheries Board).</p>	<p>Programmes for Shellfish Waters, Urban Wastewater Water Directive and the Habitats Directive</p> <p>Objective WW02 To provide, subject to funding, adequate wastewater facilities to serve the existing and future needs of populations in the towns and villages identified in the Settlement Hierarchy subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters, Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive and the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective WW03 a) To facilitate the provision and improvement of adequate wastewater services in order to serve the existing and future needs of the populations of towns, villages and settlements as identified in the settlement hierarchy and Core Strategy and as determined by the Water Services Assessment of Needs and as finances permit and in accordance with the Water Framework Directive 2000 and the EU Urban Wastewater Directive and Habitats Directive; b) To develop, where necessary, and in line with the Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy, additional capacity of existing treatment plants to meet the requirements of future development proposals; c) ensure that all foul water generated is collected and discharged after treatment in a safe and sustainable manner, having regard to the standards and requirements set out in EU and national legislation.</p> <p>Objective WW04 The Council, in conjunction with Irish Water, shall have regard to the EPA (2015) publication 'Drinking Water Report 2014' (and any subsequent update) in the establishment and maintenance of water sources in the County.</p> <p>Objective WW05 To consider the provision of communal private wastewater treatment facilities where appropriate to serve developments in Strong Villages, Smaller Villages and Rural Settlements only where it demonstrated that the proposed wastewater treatment system will meet all the relevant environmental criteria of the EPA and the Planning Authority and subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters and the Habitats Directive. An annual renewed contract for the management and maintenance of the system contracted to a reputable company/person will be required; details of which shall be submitted to the Planning Authority.</p> <p>Objective WW06 To permit the provision of private wastewater treatment facilities to serve a single dwelling house only where it demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority that the proposed wastewater treatment system is in accordance with the Code of Practice: Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Houses (EPA, 2009) and subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters and the Habitats Directive. An annual renewed contract for the management and maintenance of the system contracted to a reputable company/person will be required; details of which shall be submitted to the Planning Authority.</p> <p>Objective ED21 To support the development of the fisheries and aquaculture industry and support its diversification at appropriate locations, having regard to the requirements of the EU Water Framework</p>	<p>Objective WQ02 To require promote compliance with the European Communities (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 and the European Communities (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 and any other relevant legislations.</p> <p>Objective WQ04 To work with the Local Authority Waters Programme and other relevant State agencies to develop and implement the River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 and any future river basin management plan subject to compliance with the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective WQ05 To strive to achieve and maintain at least 'Good' status except where more stringent obligations are required, and no deterioration of status for all water bodies including protected areas, under the Marine Strategy Framework and its programme of measures, the Water Framework Directive and the River Basin Management Plan.</p> <p>Objective WQ07 To screen planning applications according to their Water Framework Directive status and have regard to their status and objectives to achieve 'good' status or protect and improve 'high or good status'.</p> <p>Objective WQ12 To protect and enhance heavily modified water bodies and artificial water bodies in order to achieve good ecological potential and good chemical status for those water bodies and to progressively reduce pollution from priority substances and cease or phase out emissions, discharges and losses of priority hazardous substances into surface waters.</p> <p>Objective IS01 To ensure the efficient and sustainable use and development of water resources and water services infrastructure in order to manage and conserve water resources in a manner that supports a healthy society, economic development requirements and a cleaner environment.</p> <p>Objective WW01 To require that all wastewater generated is collected, treated and discharged after treatment in a safe and sustainable manner, having regard to the standards and requirements set out in EU and national legislation and guidance and subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, the National River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 and any updated version during the lifetime of the Plan, the Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters, Urban Wastewater Water Directive and the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective FRM02 To implement and comply fully with the recommendations of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared as part of the Wexford County Development Plan 2021-2027.</p> <p>Objective EM01 To ensure that proposed projects/developments comply with the requirements of EIA Directive 2014/52/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014, amending Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment, and as transposed into Irish law under national legislation, including in Schedule 5 Part 1 and Part 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended. In accordance with Article 3 of Directive 2014/52/EU, where EIA is required the environmental impact assessments presented in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, the direct and indirect significant effects of a project on the following factors: population and human health; biodiversity (with particular attention to species and habitats protected under Directive 92/43/EEC and Directive 2009/147/EC); land, soil, water, air and climate, material assets, cultural heritage, and the landscape, and the interaction between the foregoing factors.</p> <p>Objective EM05 To implement the provisions of EU and National legislation and other relevant legislative</p>
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						<p>Directive, the relevant River Basin Management Plans and the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective TM14 To ensure the full recreational potential of the River Barrow and its estuary is realised whilst taking cognisance of the aims and objectives of the South Eastern River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015 and the requirement to achieve good status by 2015 and that all development is undertaken in compliance with Articles 6 and Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective WS01 To protect existing and potential water resources for the county, in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), the South-East River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015 and any updated version, the Pollution Reduction Programmes for designated shellfish waters, the provisions of the Groundwater Protection Scheme for the county and any other protection plans for water supply sources.</p> <p>Objective WQ01 To protect existing and potential water resources for the county, in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC) the South-East River Basin Management Plan 2009-2015 and any updated version, the Pollution Reduction Programmes for designated shellfish waters, the provisions of Groundwater Protection Scheme for the county any other protection plans for water supply sources, with an aim to improving all water quality.</p> <p>Objective WQ04 To ensure that developments permitted comply with the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive, the relevant River Basin Management Plans and the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective RS13 To facilitate the sustainable development of eco-tourism at appropriate locations in the county, whilst protecting areas of ecological value and ensuring that any development takes cognisance of the aims and objectives of the Water Framework Directive and ensuring that all development is undertaken in compliance with Articles 6 and Article 10 of the Habitats Directive</p> <p>Objective RS24 To promote the development of riverside walking routes, whilst protecting areas of ecological value and ensuring that any development takes cognisance of the aims and objectives of the Water Framework Directive and ensuring that all development is undertaken in compliance with Articles 6 and Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective CF12 Facilitate the provision of new burial grounds and the extension of existing burial grounds as appropriate to cater for the needs of a multi-cultural county, ensuring that any development takes cognisance of the aims and objectives of the Water Framework Directive and achieving good status by 2015 and that all development is undertaken in compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.</p>	<p>requirements on protecting and improving surface and ground water quality, air quality and climate, and on reducing adverse noise and light nuisance, as appropriate and in conjunction with all relevant stakeholders in the interests of the protection of the environment, public health and the sustainable development of the county.</p>
Material Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Contribution towards appropriate provision of infrastructure and services to existing population and planned growth by facilitating compact development of lands within and adjacent to the town that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-served lands elsewhere in the County and beyond.</li><li>Contribution towards compliance</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Failure to provide adequate and appropriate waste water treatment (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts).</li><li>Failure to</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Exceedance of capacity in critical infrastructure risks remain, including due to uncertainty with regard to climate – however, such risks will be mitigated by measures, including</li></ul>	MA	<p>Objective WW01 To promote and facilitate the provision by Irish Water of adequate water and waste water treatment infrastructure to serve the needs of the existing and future population of the plan area and ensure that such infrastructure is provided prior to, or in tandem with, new development.</p> <p>Objective WW02 To encourage the decommissioning of existing on-site private waste water treatment facilities and the connection of the subject properties to the public waste water treatment system subject to the compliance with normal planning and</p>	<p>Objective WW02 To provide, subject to funding, adequate wastewater facilities to serve the existing and future needs of populations in the towns and villages identified in the Settlement Hierarchy subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework Directive, relevant River Basin Management Plan, relevant Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters, Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive and the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective WS02 To ensure drinking water supplied by the public water network complies with the European Communities (Drinking Water) Regulations 2007.</p> <p>Objective WM09 To encourage the development of Construction and Demolition waste recycling facilities</p>	<p>Objective WS01 To protect existing and potential water resources for the county in accordance with the EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC), the National River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021 and any updated version, the Pollution Reduction Programmes for designated shellfish waters, the provisions of the county Groundwater Protection Scheme and any other protection plans for water supply resources.</p> <p>Objective WW01 To require that all wastewater generated is collected, treated and discharged after treatment in a safe and sustainable manner, having regard to the standards and requirements set out in EU and national legislation and guidance and subject to complying with the provisions and objectives of the EU Water Framework</p>

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	<p>with national and regional water services and waste management policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribution towards increase in renewable energy use by facilitating renewable energy and electricity transmission infrastructure developments.</li> <li>• Contribution towards limits in increases in energy demand from the transport sector by facilitating sustainable compact growth.</li> <li>• Contribution towards reductions in average energy consumption per capita including promoting sustainable compact growth, sustainable mobility, sustainable design and energy efficiency.</li> </ul>	<p>adequately treat surface water run-off that is discharged to water bodies (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Failure to comply with drinking water regulations and serve new development with adequate drinking water (water services infrastructure and capacity ensures the mitigation of potential conflicts).</li> <li>• Increases in waste levels.</li> <li>• Potential impacts upon public assets and infrastructure.</li> <li>• Interactions between agriculture and soil, water, biodiversity and human health - including phosphorous and nitrogen deposition as a result of agricultural activities and the production of secondary inorganic particulate matter.</li> </ul>	<p>those requiring the timely provision of critical infrastructure, and compliance with the Water Framework Directive and associated River Basin Management Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residual wastes to be disposed of in line with higher-level waste management policies.</li> <li>• Any impacts upon public assets and infrastructure to comply with statutory planning/consent-granting framework.</li> </ul>		<p>environmental criteria and the standards and requirements set out in EU and national legislation and guidance.</p> <p>Objective WW03 To implement, in conjunction with Irish Water, the relevant recommendations set out in the EPA (2015) publication 'Urban Waste Water Treatment in 2014' (and any subsequent update).</p> <p>Objective WW04 The Council, in conjunction with Irish Water, shall have regard to the EPA (2015) publication 'Drinking Water Report 2014' (and any subsequent update) in the establishment and maintenance of water sources in the County.</p>	<p>at appropriate sites subject to complying with normal planning and environmental criteria and the relevant development management standards set out in Chapter 18.</p> <p>Objective WM10 To promote the recycling and reuse of aggregates from Construction and Demolition waste.</p> <p>Objective WM01 To implement the provisions of the Joint Waste Management Plan for the South-East Region 2006-2011, and any updated version published during the lifetime of the Plan, subject to compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective WM02 To increase public awareness of the importance of waste management, in particular prevention and minimisation of waste. The Council will encourage local communities, schools and businesses to become involved in environmental awareness activities and community based recycling or environmental management initiatives that will lead to local sustainable waste management practices.</p> <p>Objective WM03 To implement the National Waste Prevention Programme and any updated version published during the lifetime of the Plan. The Council will continue to support initiatives such as the 'Green Business Initiative' and the 'Green Schools Programme' which promote waste prevention in businesses and schools.</p> <p>Objective WM04 To encourage the development of waste minimisation strategies for domestic, commercial and industrial waste.</p> <p>Objective WM05 To support the development of appropriately sited waste recycling and recovery facilities, such as bring centres, civic amenity centres, waste transfer stations, waste material facilities and authorised treatment facilities for end-of-life vehicles as a means of facilitating a reduction in the quantity of waste that goes to landfill disposal sites subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the relevant development management standards set out in Chapter 18.</p> <p>Objective WM06 To ensure hazardous household waste is disposed off in accordance with the provisions of the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2008-2012, and any updated version published during the lifetime of the Plan, subject to compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective WM07 To encourage and facilitate the development of new alternatives and technological advances in relation to waste management such as Organic Waste to Energy/Combined Heat and Power schemes subject to the criteria for location of waste management facilities contained in Section 10.6.3 above and compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.</p> <p>Objective WM08 To support the provision of infrastructure for composting and other forms of recycling for bio- waste subject to the criteria for location of waste management facilities contained in Section 10.6.3 above and compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.</p> <p>Objective WM11 To ensure the disposal of agricultural waste is carried in a safe manner and in compliance with the Nitrates Directive, European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations, 2009 (S.I. No. 101 of 2009), the European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 610 of 2010),</p>	<p>Directive, the National River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 and any updated version during the lifetime of the Plan, the Pollution Reduction Programmes for Shellfish Waters, Urban Wastewater</p> <p>Water Directive and the Habitats Directive.</p> <p>Objective WW03 In order to fulfil the objectives of the Core Strategy, Settlement Strategy and the Economic Development Strategy, the Council will work alongside and facilitate the delivery of Irish Water's Water Services Strategic Plan and Capital Investment Plan, to ensure the provision of sufficient wastewater capacity to serve all lands zoned for development and in particular, to endeavour to secure the delivery of strategic wastewater treatment plant upgrades and any other smaller, localised wastewater treatment plant upgrades required during the lifetime of the plan.</p> <p>Objective WM01 To sustainably manage waste generation, support the investment in different types of waste treatment and support circular economy principles, prioritising prevention, reuse, recycling and recovery, to support a sustainable and healthy environment, economy and society.</p> <p>Objective WM02 To implement the provisions of the Southern Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021, and any updated version published during the lifetime of the Plan, subject to compliance with the Habitats Directive and normal planning and environmental criteria</p> <p>Objective CA04 To implement the Energy Strategy contained in Volume 10 of the Wexford County Development Plan to facilitate the transition to a low carbon county.</p> <p>Objective FRM01 To carry out flood risk assessment when implementing the forward planning and development management functions of the Council for the purposes of regulating, restricting and controlling development in areas at risk of flooding, and to minimise the level of risk to people, business, infrastructure and the environment through the identification and management of existing and potential future flood risk.</p> <p>Objective SWM01 To require the application of SuDS in accordance with the CIRIA SuDS Manual 2015 and any future update of this guidance, or other best practice guidance as may be specified or required by the Council. All proposals should include a commensurate drainage assessment used to design the surface water management system for the site, and this assessment should outline the drainage design considerations/strategy in line with the flood risk, surface water management and climate change requirements and objectives of the County Development Plan and the County Strategic Flood Risk Assessment in Volume 11.</p> <p>Objective GN01 To support the extension of the gas network throughout County Wexford, including subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria.</p> <p>Objective PT02 To support the upgrading of existing electricity networks and the reuse of existing power line routes.</p>
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						the Habitats Directive and any other relevant statutory provisions. Objective WM12 To have regard to the Sludge Management Plan for County Wexford 2001-2020 and any updated version published during the lifetime of the Plan, subject to compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.	
<b>Air and Climatic Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribution towards climate mitigation and adaptation by facilitating compact development of lands within and adjacent to the town that are served (or can be more easily served) by infrastructure and services, thereby helping to avoid the need to develop less well-serviced lands elsewhere in the County and beyond.</li> <li>In combination with other plans, programmes etc., contribution towards the objectives of the wide policy framework relating to climate mitigation and adaptation, and associated contribution towards maintaining and improving air quality and managing noise levels, including through measures relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainable compact growth;</li> <li>Sustainable mobility, including walking, cycling and public transport;</li> <li>Drainage, flood risk management and resilience; and</li> <li>Sustainable design, energy efficiency and green infrastructure.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential conflict between development under the Plan and aiming to reduce carbon emissions in line with local, national and European environmental objectives.</li> <li>Potential conflicts between transport emissions, including those from cars, and air quality.</li> <li>Potential conflicts between increased frequency of noise emissions and protection of sensitive receptors.</li> <li>Potential conflicts with climate adaptation measures including those relating to flood risk management.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An extent of travel related greenhouse gas and other emissions to air. This has been mitigated by provisions which have been integrated into the Plan, including those relating to sustainable compact growth and sustainable mobility.</li> <li>Interactions between noise emissions and sensitive receptors. Various provisions have been integrated into the Plan to ensure that noise levels at sensitive receptors will be minimised.</li> </ul>	<b>AC</b>	<p>Various Plan provisions relating to: Improvement of the public realm; Development of the town centre; Improved permeability; Implementation of the Neighbourhood Framework Plan for the Town Centre; Urban Design Guidelines; Reuse and regeneration of derelict land and buildings; and Development and regeneration of areas that are in need of regeneration</p> <p>Objective AMS01 To ensure the design of all streets and roads in the plan area complies with the objectives and guidelines in the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (Department of Transport and Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, 2013) and the Urban Design Strategy, the Access and Movement Strategy and the Urban Design Guidelines contained in Appendix 1 of the LAP. Objective AMS02 To secure the provision in tandem with new developments, or provide subject to available resources, the footpath and pedestrian linkage objectives detailed on Map 3. Objective AMS03 To undertake an accessibility audit of existing footpaths in the plan area in order to identify and implement a scheme of works required to provide accessible and safe footpaths for all users. Objective AMS04 To secure the provision in tandem with new developments, or provide subject to available resources, the cycle objectives detailed on Map 4. Objective EM01 To promote the preservation of best ambient air quality compatible with sustainable development in accordance with the EU Ambient Air Quality and Cleaner Air for Europe (CAFE) Directive (2008/50/EC) and ensure that all air emissions associated with new developments are within Environmental Quality Standards as out in the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011 (SI No. 180 of 2011) (or any updated/superseding documents).</p>	<p>Objective GI01 To ensure the protection, enhancement and maintenance of the natural environment and recognise the economic, social, environmental and physical value of green spaces through the integration of Green Infrastructure planning and development in the planning process.</p> <p>Objective GI02 To develop and implement a Green infrastructure Strategy for the county within the lifetime of the Plan in consultation with adjoining local authorities, key stakeholders and the public, subject to compliance with Articles 6 and 10 of the Habitats Directive. The Strategy will integrate policies and objectives under a number of headings including; natural heritage, parks and open spaces, built heritage and archaeology, water management, flooding and climate change allowing for a strategic approach to green space planning in the County.</p> <p>Objective GI03 To identify, protect, enhance and manage Green Infrastructure in all Local Area Plans in an integrated and coherent manner.</p> <p>Objective GI04 To ensure the principles of Green Infrastructure and the County Green Infrastructure Strategy are used to inform the development management process in terms of design and layout of new residential schemes, business and industrial developments and other relevant projects, for example, through the integration of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) into the overall site concept and layout.</p> <p>Objective GI05 To require new developments to contribute to the protection and enhancement of existing Green Infrastructure, and the provision of new Green Infrastructure where appropriate, in an integrated and coherent manner. Such development shall be in compliance with all other planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.</p> <p>Objective GI06 To require proposals for medium to high-density residential schemes to have regard to the recommendations of the 'Green City Guidelines' (UCD Urban Institute of Ireland, 2008) when designing such schemes and to demonstrate this in the planning application.</p> <p>Objective GI07 To require proposals for significant development to submit a Green Infrastructure Plan as part of the planning application.</p> <p>Objective CC01 To have regard to the National Climate Change Strategy 2007-2012 and any updated version of this document published during the lifetime of the Plan.</p> <p>Objective CC02 To have regard to the any future Climate Change Action Plan for the South-East Region</p> <p>Objective CC03 To prepare, in conjunction with other key stakeholders, a Climate Change Strategy for the County during the lifetime of the Plan.</p> <p>Objective CC04 To minimise greenhouse gas emissions in order to contribute to a reduction and avoidance of human induced climate change in accordance with the Kyoto agreement. The Council supports and is committed to the National Climate Change Strategy and in general to facilitating measures, which seek to</p>	<p>Objective TS02 To minimise the generation of greenhouse gases by the transport sector by effectively integrating land use and transport planning through the Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy of the County/Development Plan, the implementation of the 10-minute town concept in local area plans, by promoting compact development in the right location and by managing our networks, roads and streets in a manner which will promote and prioritise sustainable modes.</p> <p>Objective AQ01 To have regard to the Air Quality Standards Regulation 2011 (S.I. No. 180 of 2011) when assessing planning applications for development which may have effects on air quality.</p> <p>Objective AQ02 To encourage sustainable industrial developments by promoting the use of cleaner technologies and production techniques, reducing waste production, conservation and recycling of materials.</p> <p>Objective AQ05 To promote a modal change from private car use to other types of travel and to promote the use of public transport as a means of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality.</p> <p>Objective N01 To promote the pro-active management of noise where it is likely to have significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life and support the aims of the Environmental Noise Regulations through national planning guidance and Noise Actions Plans.</p> <p>Objective N02 To have regard to the provisions of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Acts 1992 and 2003 and the Environmental Protection Agency Act (Noise) Regulations 1994 when assessing planning applications.</p> <p>Objective N03 To have regard to the Wexford County Council Noise Action Plan 2019-2023, in particular Appendix B Roadways Qualified for Noise Mapping, Appendix C Strategic Noise Maps and Appendix D Potential Noise Hotspots, in the preparation of future local area plans and to ensure that planning applications comply with the provisions and requirements of that plan, and any future revisions/update to it.</p> <p>Objective CA02: To implement the National Mitigation Plan and National Adaptation Framework through the strategies and objectives of the County Development Plan and in future local area plans.</p> <p>Objective CA03 To implement the County Wexford Climate Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 in future local area plans and the assessment of planning applications.</p> <p>Objective CA06 To utilise the Climate Action Fund established under the National Development Plan to facilitate public and private climate mitigation and adaptation projects in line with criteria set out by the Fund at that time.</p> <p>Objective CA08 To support measures to build resilience to climate change including adaptive capacity, awareness and providing for nature-based solutions and emergency planning and to raise awareness of the role of spatial planning in climate change mitigation and adaptation through the forward planning and development management functions of the Planning Authority.</p> <p>Objective CA12 To support the decarbonisation of the energy sector by supporting the implementation of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan and investment in initiatives to improve energy efficiency and future proof the</p>

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					<p>reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.</p> <p>Objective CC05 To prepare a Renewable Energy Strategy for County Wexford during the lifetime of the Plan, which will build on and support the Wind Energy Strategy 2013-2019, any Climate Change Strategy prepared for the County and the National Renewable Energy Action Plan (Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, 2010).</p> <p>Objective CC06 To adopt sustainable planning strategies through the integration of land use and transportation as a means of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Objective CC07 To raise awareness of climate change and its potential impacts and encourage businesses, local communities and people to be as self-sustaining as possible.</p> <p>Objective CC08 To encourage improved energy efficiency of existing building stock and to promote energy efficiency and conservation in the design and development of all new buildings and in residential schemes in particular.</p> <p>Objective CC09 To promote and encourage new developments to mitigate against, and adapt to, where possible the impacts of climate change through the location, layout and design of the development.</p> <p>Objective AQ01 To have regard to the Air Quality Standards Regulation 2011 (S.I. No. 180 of 2011) when assessing planning applications for development which may have effects on air quality.</p>	<p>county's residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural and public building stock, including retrofitting in urban and rural areas and reduction in fuel poverty. The Council will also support the development of sustainable buildings that achieve certification under systems such as the Home Performance Index and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.</p>
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contributes towards protection of cultural heritage elsewhere in the County by facilitating development within the town.</li> <li>Contributes towards protection of cultural heritage within the town by facilitating brownfield development and regeneration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential effects on protected and unknown archaeology and protected architecture arising from construction and operation activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential effects on known architectural and archaeological heritage and unknown archaeology however, these will occur in compliance with legislation.</li> </ul>	<b>CH</b>	<p>Objective AH01 To protect the architectural heritage of Gorey Town through the prevention of any works to protected structures which would cause loss of, or damage to, the character and special interest of the structure and loss of, or damage to structures of heritage value within the curtilage or any specified features in the attendant grounds of the structure.</p> <p>Objective AH02 To promote the maintenance and appropriate reuse of protected structures and older buildings of architectural merit which make a positive contribution to the character and streetscape of Gorey Town.</p> <p>Objective AH03 To retain and reinforce the existing street layouts, historic building lines and traditional plot widths which derive from the town's historical development (except in circumstances where there is a reason of justifiable public interest).</p> <p>Objective AH04 To protect and enhance the form of groups of terrace buildings on the approach roads to the town centre, especially as regards roofscapes, chimneys, shape of opes and finishes.</p> <p>Objective AH05 To have regard to the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) when considering development proposals relating to buildings included on the inventory.</p> <p>Objective ACA01 To carry out a review of the architectural heritage of Gorey Town during the preparation of the Wexford County Development Plan 2019-2025 with a view to designating Architectural Conservation Area(s).</p> <p>Objective ACA02 To preserve the character of designated Architectural Conservation Area(s) by ensuring that all proposed development within these areas are carried out to the</p>	<p>Objective CH01 To support the sustainable development and promotion of our cultural heritage and the associated infrastructure subject to normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Volume 2.</p> <p>Objective CH02 To safeguard the cultural heritage of the county and facilitate the expansion and development of appropriate facilities suitably located adjacent to points of interest subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Volume 2.</p> <p>Objective AH01 To conserve and protect archaeological sites, monuments (including their settings), underwater archaeology and objects including those listed or scheduled for inclusion on the Record of Monuments and Places and/or the Register of Historic Monuments or newly discovered sub-surface archaeological remains.</p> <p>Objective AH02 To recognise the importance of monuments and sites and protect the character and integrity of these monuments and sites where appropriate. The Council will consult the National Monuments Service where a development is proposed that may impact on an archaeological monument and/or site.</p> <p>Objective AH03 To protect the heritage of groups of important national monuments, inclusive of their contextual setting and interpretation, in the operation of development management.</p> <p>Objective BH01 To protect the architectural heritage of County Wexford and to include structures considered to be of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest in the Record of Protected Structures.</p> <p>Objective BH02 To support targeted investment in the built heritage of our region including the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and Historic Structures Fund to assist owners to maintain our built heritage assets</p> <p>Objective BH04 To protect our Architectural Heritage in the form of RPS and identify important groups of buildings/localities suitable for designation as ACAs. Wexford County Council will also endeavour to undertake</p>

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					<p>highest architectural and urban design standards.</p> <p>Objective ACA03 To engage in a targeted awareness campaign on the character and special interest of each Architectural Conservation Area during the process of designation and provide assistance and guidance in preserving these area.</p> <p>Objective ARH01 To have regard to the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP) and the newly identified sites identified on Map 9, when dealing with planning applications for development or threats to recorded items. Development shall be controlled in the vicinity of a recorded feature where it detracts from the setting of the feature or where it is injurious to its integrity, cultural or educational value. The Council shall consult with the National Monuments Service in the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht where appropriate.</p> <p>Objective ARH02 To have regard to the Zone of Archaeological Potential within Gorey town when dealing with planning applications for all development, including local authority own development. This area is identified on Map 9. Where permission for such proposals is granted, the applicant will have due regard to the recommendations of the National Monuments Service and the Heritage and Planning Division in the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. This may involve the employment of a licensed archaeologist at the expense of the developer to record any archaeological remains uncovered and to supervise all excavation works.</p>		<p>monitoring and review of the RPS and ACA's which may result in recommendations for adding or deletion and enlist measures to prevent dereliction and to support re-use of built heritage.</p> <p>Objective BH05 To protect the curtilage of Protected Structures or proposed Protected Structures from any works which would cause loss of, or damage to, the special character of the structure and loss of or damage to, any structures of heritage value within the curtilage or attendant grounds of the structure.</p> <p>Objective ACA02 To review current ACA's during the preparation of subsequent LAPs, in conjunction with owners and occupiers and interest groups, with a view to preparing a Management Scheme and guidance on the treatment of structures and the public realm.</p> <p>Objective ACA03 To ensure that all proposed developments are carried out to the highest architectural and urban design standards within the Architectural Conservation Areas.</p>
<b>Landscape</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contributes towards protection of wider landscape and landscape designations by facilitating development within the town.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occurrence of adverse visual impacts and conflicts with the appropriate protection of designations relating to the landscape.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landscapes will change overtime as a result of natural changes in vegetation cover combined with new developments that will occur in compliance with the Plan's landscape protection measures.</li> </ul>	<b>L</b>	<p>Various urban design guidelines including those relating to character, coherence, connectivity and permeability, continuity and enclosure, scale, landscape, adaptability, diversity, building style and materials and urban blocks.</p>		<p>Objective L01 To have regard to the Landscape Character Unit and their assigned Landscape Sensitivity, the Draft Landscape and Landscape Assessment-Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2000) and any updated versions of these guidelines published during the lifetime of the Plan, and any National Landscape Character Assessment prepared when assessing planning applications or when carrying out local authority own development.</p> <p>Objective L02 To review the Landscape Character Assessment and the landscape objectives in the Plan, after the publication of future Landscape Assessment Guidelines issued by a Minister of the Government with respect to landscape. The revised Landscape Character Assessment will address historic and cultural landscape and seascape character analysis.</p> <p>Objective L03 To carry out landscape characterisation and sensitivity analysis to inform local area plans.</p> <p>Objective AH08 To include archaeological landscapes, battlefields and historic landscapes as part of the updated Landscape Character Assessment of the County to be prepared following the publication of a National Landscape Character Assessment.</p> <p>Objective EM01 To ensure that proposed projects/developments comply with the requirements of EIA Directive 2014/52/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014, amending Directive</p>

## 2.4 Annex II of the SEA Directive

### PART 1

#### **1. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources***

Although the proposal to extend is being screened for the need to undertake SEA and/or AA, it is acknowledged that there is no provision under national legislation for the screening of Extension of Duration of Local Area Plans, however; Wexford County Council consider that it is appropriate to undertake the screening exercises.

In proposing to extend the life of the existing Local Area Plan by a period of up to three years, Wexford County Council has confirmed that it is satisfied that the existing Plan remains generally consistent with the aims and objectives of the relevant statutory national and regional frameworks and strategies, namely the National Planning Framework 2040 and the Southern Regional Assembly's Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2020-2032, and that the Plan, in combination with the wider planning framework, would continue to provide a framework for the proper planning and sustainable development of Gorey.

This wider planning framework includes the existing County Development Plan adopted in 2013 provides for the proper planning and sustainable development of the County, including the town of Gorey and takes primacy over the Local Area Plan, including in any instances where differences in the provisions of the Local Area Plan and the County Development Plan. Once adopted in 2022, the new County Development Plan, which is being subject to separate SEA, SFRA and AA processes, will provide for the proper planning and sustainable development of the County, including the town of Gorey from 2022 until 2028. Once adopted, the new County Development Plan will take primacy over the Local Area Plan, including in any instances where differences in the provisions of the Local Area Plan and the County Development Plan.

In implementing the Plan, the Plan and wider planning framework require that adequate and appropriate critical service infrastructure is in place to service any development proposed and authorised. It is not envisaged that any development will be permitted on lands identified with a particular land use zoning objective that would exceed the capacity of piped water infrastructure operated by Irish Water. In addition, Plan implementation must ensure that appropriate phasing is followed and that compact and sequential development is achieved.

In considering the extended period of the Plan, Wexford County Council has considered the need to align with national commitments on climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as incorporating any relevant recommendations in sectoral, regional and local climate adaptation plans. Such matters are contributed towards by the existing Plan and the in-force County Development Plan and are being progressed by the Local Authority in tandem with the review process of the County Development Plan. Furthermore, the LAP must be varied within one year where it is inconsistent with the County Development Plan. This will ensure the LAP is fully consistent with the NPF/RSES.

Furthermore:

- Apart from the lifespan of the Plan, the proposal does not affect the provisions of the current Plan that are already in force;
- The Plan sits within a hierarchy of strategic actions (including those detailed in Appendix I) that provide a number of high-level environmental protection and management policies and objectives with which implementation of the Plan must comply;
- The proposal to extend the Plan is for a maximum period of three years.

Potential adverse effects that would arise from the existing Plan in combination with the wider planning framework and the extension are present already and were envisaged and mitigated by original SEA for the Plan. Projects within the Plan area are required to comply with mitigation measures under the current Gorey Local Area Plan, the Current County Development Plan to be replaced and the emerging County Development Plan. The presence of the potential adverse effects will be extended by a further three years, however; they are likely to be present under the County Development Plan in any case, was the Local Area Plan to expire. Any future development under the extended Plan would have to be subject to the various provisions of the existing Local Area Plan and the relevant County Development Plan in force at that time that relate to sustainable development and the protection and management of the environment (as well as the other provisions from the hierarchy of strategic actions detailed in Appendix I) – see Table 2.4. Considering these provisions, any residual adverse environmental effects occurring would not be significant.

Positive effects that would arise from the existing Local Area Plan in combination with the wider planning framework and the extension are present already, were envisaged by the original SEA of the existing Plan and would be further contributed towards. In this way, the extended Plan would further contribute towards the environmental protection, environmental management and sustainable development that is already provided for by the current Plan. The presence of these positive effects will be extended by up to three years, however; they are likely to be present under the County Development Plan in any case, was the Local Area Plan to expire.

Taking the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the degree to which the Plan and the Proposal would set a framework for projects and other activities, the Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

## **2. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the degree to which the plan influences other plans, including those in a hierarchy***

The Proposal is to extend the current Plan. The current Plan provides a framework for the proper planning and sustainable development of Gorey. Implementation of the current Plan is influenced by higher-level legislation, plans and programmes and it influences lower-tier plans. Any future development under the Plan would have to comply with the various provisions of the Plan that relate to sustainable development and the protection and management of the environment, as well as those of the wider planning framework – see Table 2.4.

Taking all of the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the degree to which the Plan and the Proposal would influence other plans, the Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

## **3. *The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development***

The current Plan - to which the Proposal relates - has undergone SEA. This process integrated environmental considerations into the Plan and found that the Plan contributes towards environmental protection and management and sustainable development. Implementation of the current Plan, including in-combination with the wider planning framework, contributes towards the integration of environmental considerations in decision-making and sustainable development

Taking all of the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the degree to which the Plan and the Proposal would be relevant for the integration of environmental considerations with a view to promoting sustainable development, the Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

**4. The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: environmental problems relevant to the plan**

Environmental problems arise where there is a conflict between current environmental conditions and legislative targets. Through its provisions relating to environmental protection and management, the Plan contributes towards ensuring that environmental conditions do not get worse and, where possible, they contribute towards its amelioration.

Taking all of the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from environmental problems relevant to the Plan and the Proposal, the Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

**5. The characteristics of the plan having regard, in particular, to: the relevance of the plan for the implementation of European Union legislation on the environment (e.g. plans linked to waste-management or water protection)**

The current Plan relates to the land use and town planning sector and has fulfilled requirements in relation to SEA. This process integrated considerations with regard to EU and national legislation on the environment, including those relating to the waste management and the Water Framework Directive. Furthermore, the Plan sits within a hierarchy of strategic actions that provide a number of high-level environmental protection and management policies and objectives with which implementation of the Plan must comply.

Taking all of the above and the other SEA screening assessment and commentary provided under Section 2.3 into account, arising from the relevance of the Plan and the Proposal for the implementation of European Union legislation on the environment, the Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

## **PART 2**

**1. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects**

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

**2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the cumulative nature of the effects**

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

**3. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the transboundary nature of the effects**

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

**4. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)**

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).



**5. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)**

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

**6. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:**

**a) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;**

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

**b) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values, and;**

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

**c) intensive land-use.**

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

**7. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to: the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, European Union or international protection status**

The Proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects (see responses provided under Annex II Part 1 above and the assessment provided under Section 2.3).

## Section 3 Conclusion

Screening is the process for deciding whether a particular plan, programme, proposal, etc., other than those for which SEA is mandatory, would be likely to have significant environmental effects, and would thus warrant SEA.

The current Gorey Local Area Plan provides for sustainable development and proper planning within Gorey. The purpose of this report is to inform: whether the proposal to extend would, or would not, be likely to have significant environmental effects, taking into account relevant criteria set out under the SEA Directive; and therefore would, or would not, necessitate the undertaking of SEA.

This SEA Screening Report has examined the proposal, including against relevant criteria set out in Annex II '*Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in Article 3(5)*' of the SEA Directive and taking into account responses from environmental authorities.

Taking into account this examination, the findings of which are provided in this report, it is advised that the proposal would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects.

# Appendix I Relationship with Legislation and Other Plans and Programmes

This appendix is not intended to be a full and comprehensive review of EU Directives, the transposing regulations or the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management. The information is not exhaustive and it is recommended to consult the Directive, Regulation, Plan or Programme to become familiar with the full details of each.

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>International/European Level</b>			
<b>SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development.</li> <li>Provide for a high level of protection of the environment by carrying out an environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out an environmental assessment for plans or programmes referred to in Articles 2 to 4 of the Directive.</li> <li>Prepare an environmental report which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme and reasonable alternatives that consider the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme.</li> <li>Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission.</li> <li>Consult other Member States where the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have transboundary environmental effects.</li> <li>Inform relevant authorities and stakeholders on the decision to implement the plan or programme.</li> <li>Issue a statement to include requirements detailed in Article 9 of the Directive.</li> <li>Monitor and mitigate significant environmental effects identified by the assessment.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EIA Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires the assessment of the environmental effects of public and private projects which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.</li> <li>Aims to assess and implement avoidance or mitigation measures to eliminate environmental effects, before consent is given of projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to a requirement for development consent and an assessment with regard to their effects. Those projects are defined in Article 4.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an EIA.</li> <li>For projects listed in Annex II, a "screening procedure" is required to determine the effects of projects on the basis of thresholds/criteria or a case by case examination. This should take into account Annex III.</li> <li>The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 12, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors: human beings, fauna and flora, soil, water, air, climate and the landscape, material assets and the cultural heritage, the interaction between each factor.</li> <li>Consult with relevant authorities, stakeholders and public allowing sufficient time to make a submission before a decision is made.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.</li> <li>Contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.</li> <li>Maintain or restore to favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of community interest.</li> <li>Promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Propose and protect sites of importance to habitats, plant and animal species.</li> <li>Establish a network of European sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I and habitats of the species listed in Annex II, to enable the natural habitat types and the species' habitats concerned to be maintained or, where appropriate, restored at a favourable conservation status in their natural range.</li> <li>Carry out comprehensive assessment of habitat types and species present.</li> <li>Establish a system of strict protection for the animal species and plant species listed in Annex IV.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conserve all species of naturally occurring birds in the wild state including their eggs, nests and habitats.</li> <li>Protect, manage and control these species and comply with regulations relating to their exploitation.</li> <li>The species included in Annex I shall be the subject of special conservation measures concerning their habitat in order to ensure their survival and reproduction in their area of distribution.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preserve, maintain or re-establish a sufficient diversity and area of habitats for all the species of birds referred to in Annex 1.</li> <li>Preserve, maintain and establish biotopes and habitats to include the creation of protected areas (Special Protection Areas).</li> <li>Ensure the upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones, re-establish destroyed biotopes and creation of biotopes.</li> <li>Measures for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I is required as regards their breeding, moulting and wintering areas and staging posts along their migration routes. The protection of wetlands and particularly wetlands of international importance.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reducing water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and – preventing further such pollution.</li> </ul>	<p>Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme is designed to prevent pollution of surface waters and ground water from agricultural sources and to protect and improve water quality. Ireland's third NAP came into operation in 2014. Each Member State's NAP must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a limit on the amount of livestock manure applied to the land each year</li> <li>set periods when land spreading is prohibited due to risk</li> <li>set capacity levels for the storage of livestock manure</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>EU Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive (2008/1/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The purpose of this Directive is to achieve integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from the activities listed in Annex I. It lays down measures designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions in the air, water and land from the abovementioned activities, including measures concerning waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole, without prejudice to Directive 85/337/EEC and other relevant Community provisions.</li> </ul>	<p>The IPPC Directive is based on several principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an integrated approach</li> <li>best available techniques,</li> <li>flexibility; and</li> <li>public participation</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU Plant Protection (products) Directive 2009/127/EC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Directive aims at reducing the risks and impacts of pesticide use on human health and</li> <li>the environment by introducing different targets, tools and measures such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM) or National Action Plans (NAPs).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Framework Directive applies to pesticides which are plant protection products.</li> <li>Regarding pesticide application equipment already in professional use, the Framework Directive introduces requirements for the inspection and maintenance to be carried out on such equipment.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU Renewables Directive (2009/28/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Renewable Energy Directive establishes an overall policy for the production and promotion of energy from renewable sources in the EU.</li> <li>It requires the EU to fulfil at least 20% of its total energy needs with renewables by 2020 – to be achieved through the attainment of individual national targets.</li> <li>All EU countries must also ensure that at least 10% of their transport fuels come from renewable sources by 2020.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Directive promotes cooperation amongst EU countries (and with countries outside the EU) to help them meet their renewable energy targets.</li> <li>The Directive specifies national renewable energy targets for each country, taking into account its starting point and overall potential for renewables.</li> <li>EU countries set out how they plan to meet these targets and the general course of their renewable energy policy in national renewable energy action plans.</li> <li>Progress towards national targets is measured every two years when EU countries publish national renewable energy progress reports.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Indirect Land Use Change Directive (2012/0288 (COD))</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Article 3(4) of Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (3) requires Member States to ensure that the share of energy from renewable energy sources in all forms of transport in 2020 is at least 10 % of their final energy consumption.</li> <li>The blending of biofuels is one of the methods available for Member States to meet this target, and is expected to be the main contributor.</li> <li>Other methods available to meet the target are the reduction of energy consumption, which is imperative because a mandatory percentage target for energy from renewable sources is likely to become increasingly difficult to achieve sustainably if overall demand for energy for transport continues to rise, and the use of electricity from renewable energy sources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limit the contribution that conventional biofuels (with a risk of ILUC emissions) make towards attainment of the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive;</li> <li>Improve the greenhouse gas performance of biofuel production processes (reducing associated emissions) by raising the greenhouse gas saving threshold for new installations subject to protecting installations already in operation on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014;</li> <li>Encourage a greater market penetration of advanced (low-ILUC) biofuels by allowing such fuels to contribute more to the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive than conventional biofuels;</li> <li>Improve the reporting of greenhouse gas emissions by obliging Member States and fuel suppliers to report the estimated indirect land-use change emissions of biofuels.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive (2014/94/EU)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Directive establishes a common framework of measures for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure in the Union in order to minimise dependence on oil and to mitigate the environmental impact of transport.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Directive sets out minimum requirements for the building-up of alternative fuels infrastructure, including recharging points for electric vehicles and refuelling points for natural gas (LNG and CNG) and hydrogen, to be implemented by means of Member States' national policy frameworks, as well as common technical specifications for such recharging and refuelling points, and user information requirements.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishes a set of binding measures to help the EU reach its 20% energy efficiency target by 2020.</li> <li>Under the Directive, all EU countries are required to use energy more efficiently at all stages of the energy chain, from production to final consumption.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Energy distributors or retail energy sales companies have to achieve 1.5% energy savings per year through the implementation of energy efficiency measures</li> <li>EU countries can opt to achieve the same level of savings through other means, such as improving the efficiency of heating systems, installing double glazed windows or insulating roofs</li> <li>The public sector in EU countries should purchase energy efficient buildings, products and services</li> <li>Every year, governments in EU countries must carry out energy efficient renovations on at least 3% (by floor area) of the buildings they own and occupy</li> <li>Energy consumers should be empowered to better manage consumption. This includes easy and free access to data on consumption through individual metering</li> <li>National incentives for SMEs to undergo energy audits</li> <li>Large companies will make audits of their energy consumption to help them identify ways to reduce it</li> <li>Monitoring efficiency levels in new energy generation capacities</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Directive lays down rules for the prevention of major accidents which involve dangerous substances, and the limitation of their consequences for human health and the environment, with a view to ensuring a high level of protection throughout the Union in a consistent and effective</li> </ul>	<p>The Seveso Directive is well integrated with other EU policies, thus avoiding double regulation or other administrative burden. This includes the following related policy areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals;</li> <li>The Union's Civil Protection Mechanism;</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
	manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Security Union Agenda including CBRN-E and Protection of critical infrastructure;</li> <li>Policy on environmental liability and on the protection of the environment through criminal law;</li> <li>Safety of offshore oil and gas operations.</li> </ul>	need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>European Union Biodiversity Strategy to 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aims to halt or reverse biodiversity loss and speed up the EU's transition towards a resource efficient and green economy.</li> <li>Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them in so far as feasible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outlines six targets and twenty actions to aid European Union in halting the loss to biodiversity and eco-system services.</li> <li>The six targets cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity</li> <li>Maintaining, enhancing and protecting for ecosystems, and green infrastructure</li> <li>Ensuring sustainable agriculture, and forestry</li> <li>Sustainable management of fish stocks</li> <li>Reducing invasive alien species</li> <li>Addressing the global need to contribute towards averting global biodiversity loss</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU Green Infrastructure Strategy</b>	Aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate Green Infrastructure (GI) projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting GI in the main EU policy areas.</li> <li>Supporting EU-level GI projects.</li> <li>Improving access to finance for GI projects.</li> <li>Improving information and promoting innovation.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>UNESCO (1972) The Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>links concepts of nature conservation and the preservation of cultural properties; and</li> <li>recognizes the way in which people interact with nature, and the fundamental need to preserve the balance between the two.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sets out the duties of States Parties in identifying potential sites and their role in protecting and preserving them;</li> <li>each country pledges to conserve not only the World Heritage sites situated on its territory, but also to protect its national heritage;</li> <li>encourages to integrate the protection of the cultural and natural heritage into regional planning programmes, set up staff and services at their sites, undertake scientific and technical conservation research and adopt measures which give this heritage a function in the day-to-day life of the community.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>UN (1992) The Convention on Biological Diversity</b>	An overall objective is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	<p>The Convention has three main goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity);</li> <li>the sustainable use of its components; and</li> <li>the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>UN (1992) Framework Convention on Climate Change</b>	It is aimed at stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.	The Convention acknowledges the vulnerability of all countries to the effects of climate change and calls for special efforts to ease the consequences, especially in developing countries which lack the resources to do so on their own.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>UN Kyoto Protocol (2<sup>nd</sup> Kyoto Period), the Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II), Paris climate conference (COP21) 2015 (Paris Agreement)</b>	<p>The UN Kyoto Protocol set of policy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>The Second European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) aims to identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol.</p> <p>At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Kyoto Protocol is implemented through the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II).</li> <li>EU member states implement measures to improve on or complement the specified measures and policies arising from the ECCP.</li> <li>Under COP21, governments agreed to come together every 5 years to set more ambitious targets as required by science; report to each other and the public on how well they are doing to implement their targets; track progress towards the long-term goal through a robust transparency and accountability system.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<b>EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Binding legislation which aims to ensure the European Union meets its climate and energy targets for 2020.</li> <li>Aims to achieve a 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels.</li> <li>Aims to raise the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20%.</li> <li>Achieve a 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency.</li> </ul>	<p>Four pieces of complimentary legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reform of the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) to include a cap on emission allowances in addition to existing system of national caps.</li> <li>Member States have agreed national targets for non-EU ETS emissions from countries outside the EU.</li> <li>Meet the national renewable energy targets of 16% for Ireland by 2020.</li> <li>Preparing a legal framework for technologies in carbon capture and storage.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A 2030 Framework for climate and energy, including EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period between 2020 and 2030 that has been agreed by European countries.</li> <li>Targets include a 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels, at least a 27% share of renewable energy consumption and at least 27% energy savings compared with the business-as-usual scenario.</li> </ul>	<p>To meet the targets, the European Commission has proposed the following policies for 2030:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A reformed EU emissions trading scheme (ETS).</li> <li>New indicators for the competitiveness and security of the energy system, such as price differences with major trading partners, diversification of supply, and interconnection capacity between EU countries.</li> <li>First ideas for a new governance system based on national plans for competitive, secure, and sustainable energy. These plans will follow a common EU approach. They will ensure stronger investor certainty, greater transparency, enhanced policy coherence and improved coordination across the EU.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>The Clean Air for Europe Directive (2008/50/EC)</b> <b>(EU Air Framework Directive)</b>  <b>Fourth Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The CAFE Directive merges existing legislation into a single directive (except for the fourth daughter directive).</li> <li>Sets new air quality objectives for PM<sub>2.5</sub> (fine particles) including the limit value and exposure related objectives.</li> <li>Accounts for the possibility to discount natural sources of pollution when assessing compliance against limit values.</li> <li>Allows the possibility for time extensions of three years (PM<sub>10</sub>) or up to five years (NO<sub>2</sub>, benzene) for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission.</li> <li>The Fourth Daughter Directive lists pollutants, target values and monitoring requirements for the following: arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sets objectives for ambient air quality designed to avoid, prevent or reduce harmful effects on human health and the environment as a whole.</li> <li>Aims to assess the ambient air quality in Member States on the basis of common methods and criteria.</li> <li>Obtains information on ambient air quality in order to help combat air pollution and nuisance and to monitor long-term trends and improvements resulting from national and community measures.</li> <li>Ensures that such information on ambient air quality is made available to the public.</li> <li>Aims to maintain air quality where it is good and improving it in other cases.</li> <li>Aims to promote increased cooperation between the Member States in reducing air pollution.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)</b>	The Noise Directive - Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise - is part of an EU strategy setting out to reduce the number of people affected by noise in the longer term and to provide a framework for developing existing Community policy on noise reduction from source.	<p>The Directive requires competent authorities in Member States to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draw up strategic noise maps for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations, using harmonised noise indicators and use these maps to assess the number of people which may be impacted upon as a result of excessive noise levels;</li> <li>Draw up action plans to reduce noise where necessary and maintain environmental noise quality where it is good; and</li> <li>Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects, and the measures considered to address noise.</li> </ul> <p>The Directive does not set any limit value, nor does it prescribe the measures to be used in the action plans, which remain at the discretion of the competent authorities.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishes a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks</li> <li>Reduce adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods in the Community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess all water courses and coast lines at risk from flooding through Flood Risk Assessment</li> <li>Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps outlining the extent or potential of flooding and assets and humans at risk in these areas at River Basin District level (Article 3(2) (b)) and areas covered by Article 5(1) and Article 13(1) (b) in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3.</li> <li>Implement flood risk management plans and take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce flood risk for the areas covered by the Articles listed above.</li> <li>Inform the public and allow the public to participate in planning process.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a framework for the protection of water bodies to include inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater and their dependent wildlife and habitats.</li> <li>Preserve and prevent the deterioration of water status and where necessary improve and maintain "good status" of water bodies.</li> <li>Promote sustainable water usage.</li> <li>The Water Framework Directive repealed the following Directives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Drinking Water Abstraction Directive</li> <li>Sampling Drinking Water Directive</li> <li>Exchange of Information on Quality of Surface Freshwater Directive</li> <li>Shellfish Directive</li> <li>Freshwater Fish Directive</li> <li>Groundwater (Dangerous Substances) Directive</li> <li>Dangerous Substances Directive</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect, enhance and restore all water bodies and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Directive.</li> <li>Achieve "good status" for all waters.</li> <li>Manage water bodies based on identifying and establishing river basins districts.</li> <li>Involve the public and streamline legislation.</li> <li>Prepare and implement a River Basin Management Plan for each river basin districts identified and a Register of Protected Areas.</li> <li>Establish a programme of monitoring for surface water status, groundwater status and protected areas.</li> <li>Recover costs for water services.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect, control and conserve groundwater.</li> <li>Prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater.</li> <li>Implements measures to prevent and control groundwater pollution, including criteria for assessing good groundwater chemical status and criteria for the identification of significant and sustained upward trends and for the definition of starting points for trend reversals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet minimum groundwater standards listed in Annex 1 of Directive.</li> <li>Meet threshold values adopted by national legislation for the pollutants, groups of pollutants and indicators of pollution which have been identified as contributing to the characterisation of bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater as being at risk, also taking into account Part B of Annex II.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve and maintain the quality of water intended for human consumption.</li> <li>Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set values applicable to water intended for human consumption for the parameters set out in Annex I.</li> <li>Set values for additional parameters not included in Annex I, where the protection of human health within national territory or part of it so requires. The values set should, as a minimum, satisfy the requirements of Article 4(1) (a).</li> <li>Implement all measures necessary to ensure that regular monitoring of the quality of water intended for human consumption is carried out, in order to check that the water available to consumers meets the requirements of this Directive and in particular the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5.</li> <li>Ensure that any failure to meet the parametric values set in accordance with Article 5 is immediately investigated in order to identify the cause.</li> <li>Ensure that the necessary remedial action is taken as soon as possible to restore its quality and shall give priority to their enforcement action.</li> <li>Undertake remedial action to restore the quality of the water where necessary to protect human health.</li> <li>Notify consumers when remedial action is being undertaken except where the competent authorities consider the non-compliance with the parametric value to be trivial.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Directive concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and the treatment and discharge of waste water from certain industrial sectors.</li> <li>The objective of the Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of waste water discharges.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urban waste water entering collecting systems shall before discharge, be subject to secondary treatment.</li> <li>Annex II requires the designation of areas sensitive to eutrophication which receive water discharges.</li> <li>Establishes minimum requirements for urban waste water collection and treatment systems in specified agglomerations to include special requirements for sensitive areas and certain industrial sectors.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) as amended by Directive 2006/21/EC, Directive 2009/31/EC and Directive 2013/30/EU</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a framework of environmental liability based on the 'polluter-pays' principle, to prevent and remedy environmental damage.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relates to environmental damage caused by any of the occupational activities listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities; damage to protected species and natural habitats caused by any occupational activities other than those listed in Annex III, and to any imminent threat of such damage occurring by reason of any of those activities, whenever the operator has been at fault or negligent.</li> <li>Where environmental damage has not yet occurred but there is an imminent threat of such damage occurring, the operator shall, without delay, take the necessary preventive measures.</li> <li>Where environmental damage has occurred the operator shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of all relevant aspects of the situation and take all practicable steps to immediately control, contain, remove or otherwise manage the relevant contaminants and/or any other damage factors in order to limit or to prevent further environmental damage and adverse effects on human health or further impairment of services and the necessary remedial measures, in accordance with Article 7.</li> <li>The operator shall bear the costs for the preventive and remedial actions taken pursuant to this Directive.</li> <li>The competent authority shall be entitled to initiate cost recovery proceedings against the operator.</li> <li>The operator may be required to provide financial security guarantees to ensure their responsibilities under the directive are met.</li> <li>The Environmental Liability Directive has been amended through a number of Directives. Implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive is contributed towards by a Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) 'Making the Environmental Liability Directive more fit for purpose' that is updated annually to changing developments, growing knowledge and new needs.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.



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<b>European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta 1992)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The aim of this (revised) Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study.</li> </ul>	The Valletta Convention makes the conservation and enhancement of the archaeological heritage one of the goals of urban and regional planning policies. The Convention sets guidelines for the funding of excavation and research work and publication of research findings. It also deals with public access, in particular to archaeological sites, and educational actions to be undertaken to develop public awareness of the value of the archaeological heritage. It also constitutes an institutional framework for pan-European co-operation on the archaeological heritage, entailing a systematic exchange of experience and experts among the various States.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Convention of the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1995)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The main purpose of the Convention is to reinforce and promote policies for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's heritage. It also affirms the need for European solidarity with regard to heritage conservation and is designed to foster practical co-operation among the Parties. It establishes the principles of "European co-ordination of conservation policies" including consultations regarding the thrust of the policies to be implemented.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The reinforcement and promotion of policies for protecting and enhancing the heritage within the territories of the parties.</li> <li>The affirmation of European solidarity with regard to the protection of the heritage and the fostering of practical co-operation between states and regions.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>ICOMOS (2011) Principles for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage Sites, Structures, Areas and Landscapes ('Dublin Principles')</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is aimed to assist in the documentation, protection, conservation and appreciation of industrial heritage as part of the heritage of human societies around the World.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(I) Document and understand industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes and their values;</li> <li>(II) Ensure effective protection and conservation of the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes;</li> <li>(III) Conserve and maintain the industrial heritage structures, sites, areas and landscapes; and</li> <li>(IV) Present and communicate the heritage dimensions and values of industrial structures, sites, areas and landscapes to raise public and corporate awareness, and support training and research.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro 2005)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time.</li> <li>A heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, to sustain and transmit to future generations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognise that rights relating to cultural heritage are inherent in the right to participate in cultural life, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.</li> <li>Recognise individual and collective responsibility towards cultural heritage.</li> <li>Emphasise that the conservation of cultural heritage and its sustainable use have human development and quality of life as their goal.</li> <li>Take the necessary steps to apply the provisions of this Convention concerning the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society.</li> <li>Greater synergy of competencies among all the public, institutional and private actors concerned.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>European Landscape Convention 2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, together with the practices followed in town and country planning, transport, networks, tourism and recreation, and at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases accelerated the transformation of landscapes. The Convention expresses a concern to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. It aims to respond to the public's wish to enjoy high quality landscapes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote protection, management and planning of landscapes.</li> <li>Organise European co-operation on landscape issues.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>The Seventh Environmental Action Programme (EAP) of the European Community (2013-2020)</b>	<p>It identifies three key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital</li> <li>to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy</li> <li>to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing</li> </ul>	<p>Four so called "enablers" will help Europe deliver on these objectives (goals):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better implementation of legislation.</li> <li>Better information by improving the knowledge base.</li> <li>More and wiser investment for environment and climate policy.</li> <li>Full integration of environmental requirements and considerations into other policies.</li> </ul> <p>Two additional horizontal priority objectives complete the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make the Union's cities more sustainable.</li> <li>To help the Union address international environmental and climate challenges more effectively.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Bern Convention (Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats)</b>	<p>The convention has three main aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats</li> <li>to promote cooperation between states</li> <li>to give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species including endangered and vulnerable migratory species</li> </ul>	<p>The Parties under the convention recognise the intrinsic value of nature, which needs to be preserved and passed to future generations, they also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek to ensure the conservation of nature in their countries, paying particular attention to planning and development policies and pollution control.</li> <li>Look at implementing the Bern Convention in central Eastern Europe and the Caucasus.</li> <li>Take account of the potential impact on natural heritage by other policies.</li> <li>Promote education and information of the public, ensuring the need to conserve species is understood and acted upon.</li> <li>Develop an extensive number of species action plans, codes of conducts, and guidelines, at their own initiative or in co-operation with other organisations.</li> <li>Created the Emerald Network, an ecological network made up of Areas of Special Conservation Interest.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Bali Road Map (2007)</b>	The overall goals of the project are twofold:	The Bali Action Plan is centred on four main building	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To increase national capacity to co-ordinate ministerial views, participate in the UNFCCC process, and negotiate positions within the timeframe of the Bali Action Plan; and</li> <li>To assess investment and financial flows to address climate change for up to three key sectors and/or economic activities.</li> </ul>	<p>Blocks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>mitigation</li> <li>adaptation</li> <li>technology</li> <li>financing</li> </ul>	of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Cancun Agreements (2010)</b>	<p>Set of decisions taken at the COP 16 Conference in Cancun in 2010 which addresses a series of key issues in the fight against climate change. Cancun Agreements' main objectives cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mitigation</li> <li>Transparency of actions</li> <li>Technology</li> <li>Finance</li> <li>Adaptation</li> <li>Forests</li> <li>Capacity building</li> </ul>	Among the most prominent agreements is the establishment of a Green Climate Fund to transfer money from the developed to developing world to tackle the impacts of climate change.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Doha Climate Gateway (2012)</b>	Set of decisions taken at the COP 18 meeting in Doha in 2012 which pave the way for a new agreement in Paris in 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set out a timetable to adopt a universal climate agreement by 2015 (to come into effect in 2020);</li> <li>Complete the work under Bali Action Plan and to focus on new completing new targets;</li> <li>Strengthen the aim to cut greenhouse gases and help vulnerable countries to adapt;</li> <li>Amend Kyoto Protocol to include a new commitment period for cutting down the greenhouse gases emissions; and</li> <li>Provide the financial and technology support and new institutions to allow clean energy investment and sustainable growth in developing countries.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU Common Agricultural Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve agricultural productivity, so that consumers have a stable supply of affordable food; and</li> <li>To ensure that EU farmers can make a reasonable living.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensuring viable food production that will contribute to feeding the world's population, which is expected to rise considerably in the future;</li> <li>Climate change and sustainable management of natural resources;</li> <li>Looking after the countryside across the EU and keeping the rural economy alive.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU REACH Regulation (EC 1907/2006)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aims to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances.</li> </ul>	<p>The aims are achieved by applying REACH, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registration,</li> <li>Evaluation,</li> <li>Authorisation; and</li> <li>Restriction of chemicals.</li> </ul> <p>REACH also aims to enhance innovation and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Stockholm Convention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The objective of the Stockholm Convention is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibit and/or eliminate the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) that are listed in Annex A to the Convention</li> <li>Restrict the production and use, as well as the import and export, of the intentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex B to the Convention</li> <li>Reduce or eliminate releases from unintentionally produced POPs that are listed in Annex C to the Convention</li> <li>Ensure that stockpiles and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with POPs are managed safely and in an environmentally sound manner</li> <li>To target additional POPs</li> <li>Other provisions of the Convention relate to the development of implementation plans, information exchange, public information, awareness and education, research, development and monitoring, technical assistance, financial resources and mechanisms, reporting, effectiveness evaluation and non-compliance</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Ramsar Convention</b>	The Convention's mission is "the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world".	<p>Under the "three pillars" of the Convention, the Contracting Parties commit to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work towards the wise use of all their wetlands;</li> <li>Designate suitable wetlands for the list of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") and ensure their effective management;</li> <li>Cooperate internationally on transboundary wetlands, shared wetland systems and shared species.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental

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<b>European 2020 Strategy for Growth</b>	Europe 2020 sets out a vision of Europe's social market economy for the 21st century and puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation;</li> <li>• Sustainable growth: promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy;</li> <li>• Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion.</li> </ul>	In order to reach these priorities, the Commission proposes five quantitative targets to fulfil by 2020: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed;</li> <li>2. 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&amp;D;</li> <li>3. the "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right);</li> <li>4. the share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree;</li> <li>5. 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty.</li> </ol>	protection and management. Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>European Parliament resolutions, including the European Green Deal (EGD) 2020</b>	The deal sets out how to make Europe the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, boosting the economy, improving people's quality of life, caring for nature and leaving no one behind.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It sets out a roadmap with actions to boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy, restore biodiversity and cut pollution.</li> <li>• It outlines investments required, financing tools available and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition.</li> <li>• In order to meet the goal to become climate neutral by 2050 as part of the European Green Deal, the European Union (EU) Commission proposed on 4th March 2020 to bring about the first European Climate Law and legally bind the target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU (2020) Biodiversity Strategy</b>	A long-term plan for protecting nature and reversing the degradation of ecosystems across the European Union.	The Strategy contains specific commitments and actions to be delivered by 2030, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea, building upon existing Natura 2000 areas, with strict protection for areas of very high biodiversity and climate value.</li> <li>• An EU Nature Restoration Plan - a series of concrete commitments and actions to restore degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, and manage them sustainably, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss.</li> <li>• A set of measures to enable the necessary transformative change: setting in motion a new, strengthened governance framework to ensure better implementation and track progress, improving knowledge, financing and investments and better respecting nature in public and business decision-making.</li> <li>• Measures to tackle the global biodiversity challenge, demonstrating that the EU is ready to lead by example towards the successful adoption of an ambitious global biodiversity framework under the Convention on Biological Diversity.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EU (2018) Clean Air Policy Package</b>	Aims to substantially reduce air pollution across the EU.	The proposed strategy sets out objectives for reducing the health and environmental impacts of air pollution by 2030, and contains legislative proposals to implement stricter standards for emissions and air pollution.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Leaders Pledge for Nature 2020</b>	Political leaders (including Taoiseach Michael Martin) participating in the United Nations Summit on Biodiversity in September 2020, representing 75 countries from all regions and the European Union, have committed to reversing biodiversity loss by 2030.	As part of the UN Decade of Action to achieve sustainable development, the leaders commit to achieve the vision of Living in Harmony with Nature by 2050 by undertaking ten actions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Putting biodiversity, climate, and the environment at the heart of COVID-19 recovery strategies and investments as well as national and international development and cooperation;</li> <li>• Developing and implementing an ambitious and transformational post-2020 global biodiversity framework for adoption at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Kunming, China, as a key instrument to reach the SDGs;</li> <li>• Raising ambition and aligning domestic climate policies with the Paris Agreement on climate change, with enhanced nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and long-term strategies consistent with the temperature goals of the Paris Agreement, and the objective of net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by mid-century, and strengthen climate resilience of economies and ecosystems; and</li> <li>• Mainstream biodiversity into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policies at all levels, including in food production, agriculture, fisheries and forestry, energy, tourism, infrastructure and extractive industries, and trade and supply chains, as well as into key international agreements and processes.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>National Level</b>			
<b>Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, the National Planning Framework and the National Development Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Planning Framework is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of the year 2040. It is a framework to guide public and private investment, to create and promote opportunities for people, and to protect and enhance the environment - from villages to cities, and everything around and in between.</li> <li>The National Development Plan sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the successful implementation of the new National Planning Framework. This will guide national, regional and local planning and investment decisions in Ireland over the next two decades, to cater for an expected population increase of over 1 million people.</li> </ul>	<p>National Strategic Outcomes as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Compact Growth</li> <li>2. Enhanced Regional Accessibility</li> <li>3. Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities</li> <li>4. Sustainable Mobility</li> <li>5. A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills</li> <li>6. High-Quality International Connectivity</li> <li>7. Enhanced Amenity and Heritage</li> <li>8. Transition to a Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Society</li> <li>9. Sustainable Management of Water and other Environmental Resources</li> <li>10. Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services</li> </ol>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Planning, Land Use and Transport Outlook 2040 [in preparation]</b>	The PLUTO will take account of forecasted future economic and demographic scenarios, affordability considerations and relevant Government policies and will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Quantify in broad terms the appropriate scale of financial investment in land transport over the long term;</li> <li>2. Consider how fiscal, environmental and technological developments might impact on this investment; and,</li> <li>3. Identify strategic priorities for future investment to ensure land transport infrastructure provision facilitates the objectives of Project Ireland 2040.</li> </ol>	In preparation	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The core principal objectives of this Act are to amend the Planning Acts of 2000 – 2009 with specific regard given to supporting economic renewal and sustainable development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development, with certain exceptions, is subject to development control under the Planning Acts and the local authorities grant or refuse planning permission for development, including ones within protected areas.</li> <li>There are, however, a range of exemptions from the planning system. Use of land for agriculture, peat extraction and afforestation, subject to certain thresholds, is generally exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission.</li> <li>Additionally, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for a range of classes and large-scale projects.</li> <li>Under planning legislation, Development Plans must include mandatory objectives for the conservation of the natural heritage and for the conservation of European sites and any other sites which may be prescribed. There are also discretionary powers to set objectives for the conservation of a variety of other elements of the natural heritage.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>European Communities (Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I. 435 of 2004), as amended by S.I. 200 of 2011</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The purpose of these Regulations is to transpose into Irish law Directive 2001/42/EC of 27 June 2001 (O.J. No. L 197, 21 July 2001) on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment — commonly known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Regulations cover plans and programmes in all of the sectors listed in article 3(2) of the Directive except land-use planning.</li> <li>These Regulations also amend certain provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to provide the statutory basis for the transposition of the Directive in respect of land-use planning.</li> <li>Transposition in respect of the land-use planning sector is contained in the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 (S.I. No. 436 of 2004).</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011, as amended)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These Regulations provide a new for the implementation in Ireland of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on habitats and protection of wild fauna and flora (as amended) and for the implementation of Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of wild birds.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They provide, among other things, for: the appointment and functions of authorized officers; identification, classification and other procedures relative to the designation of Community sites.</li> <li>The Regulations have been prepared to address several judgments of the CJEU against Ireland, notably cases C-418/04 and C-183/05, in respect of failure to transpose elements of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive into Irish law.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Waste Management Act 1996, as amended</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make provision in relation to the prevention, management and control of waste; to give effect to provisions of certain acts adopted by institutions of the European communities in respect of those matters; to amend the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1992, and to repeal certain enactments and to provide for related matters.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Waste Management Act contains a number of key legal obligations, including requirements for waste management planning, waste collection and movement, the authorisation of waste facilities, measures to reduce the production of waste and/or promote its recovery.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>European Communities Environmental Objectives (FPM) Regulations 2009 (S.I. 296 of 2009)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The purpose of these Regulations is to support the achievement of favourable conservation status for freshwater pearl mussels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set environmental quality objectives for the habitats of the freshwater pearl mussel populations named in the First Schedule to these Regulations that are within the boundaries of a site notified in a candidate list of European sites, or designated as a Special Area of Conservation, under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 94/1997).</li> <li>Require the production of sub-basin management plans with programmes of</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with

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Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
		<p>measures to achieve these objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set out the duties of public authorities in respect of the sub-basin management plans and programmes of measure.</li> </ul>	<p>other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. 9 of 2010), as amended (S.I. No. 366 of 2016)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To amend the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) to make further provision to implement Commission Directive 2014/80/EU of 20 June 2014 amending Annex II to Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration.</li> </ul>	<p>The substances and threshold values set out in Schedule 5 to S.I. No. 9 of 2010 have been reviewed and amended where necessary, based on existing monitoring information and international guidelines on appropriate threshold values.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part A of Schedule 6 has been amended to include changes to the rules governing the determination of background levels for the purposes of establishing threshold values for groundwater pollutants and indicators of pollution.</li> <li>Part B of Schedule 6 has been amended to include nitrites and phosphorus (total) / phosphates among the minimum list of pollutants and their indicators which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must consider when establishing threshold values.</li> <li>Part C of Schedule 6 amends the information to be provided to the Minister by the EPA with regard to the pollutants and their indicators for which threshold values have been established.</li> </ul>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 31 of 2014)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These Regulations, which give effect to Ireland's 3<sup>rd</sup> Nitrates Action Programme, provide statutory support for good agricultural practice to protect waters against pollution from agricultural sources</li> </ul>	<p>The Regulations include measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Periods when land application of fertilisers is prohibited</li> <li>Limits on the land application of fertilisers</li> <li>Storage requirements for livestock manure; and</li> <li>Monitoring of the effectiveness of the measures in terms of agricultural practice and impact on water quality.</li> </ul>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An Act to provide for the approval of plans by the Government in relation to climate change for the purpose of pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy.</li> </ul>	<p>When considering a plan or framework, for approval, the Government shall endeavour to achieve the national transition objective within the period to which the objective relates and shall, in endeavouring to achieve that objective, ensure that such objective is achieved by the implementation of measures that are cost effective and shall, for that purpose, have regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ultimate objective specified in Article 2 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change done at New York on 9 May 1992 and any mitigation commitment entered into by the European Union in response or otherwise in relation to that objective,</li> <li>The policy of the Government on climate change,</li> <li>Climate justice,</li> <li>Any existing obligation of the State under the law of the European Union or any international agreement referred to in section 2; and</li> <li>The most recent national greenhouse gas emissions inventory and projection of future greenhouse gas emissions, prepared by the Agency.</li> </ul>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Climate Action Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Climate Action Plan 2019 is an all of Government plan to tackle climate change and bring about a step change in Ireland's climate ambition over the coming years. The plan sets out an ambitious course of action over the coming years to address the diverse and wide-ranging impacts climate disruption is having on Ireland's environment, society, economic and natural resources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Climate Action Plan sets out clear 2030 targets for each sector with the ultimate objective of achieving a transition to a competitive, low-carbon, climate-resilient, and environmentally sustainable society and economy by 2050. The Action Plan deals with both mitigation and adaptation.</li> </ul>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>The Sustainable Development Goals National Implementation Plan (2018 – 2020)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Implementation Plan 2018 - 2020 is in direct response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a whole-of-government approach to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</li> <li>The Plan provides an 'SDG Matrix' which identifies the responsible Government Departments for each of the 169 targets. It also includes an 'SDG Policy Map' indicating the relevant national policies for each of the targets.</li> </ul>	<p>The Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awareness: raise public awareness of the SDGs;</li> <li>Participation: provide stakeholders opportunities to engage and contribute to follow-up and review processes, and further develop national implementation of the Goals;</li> <li>Support: encourage and support efforts of communities and organisations to contribute towards meeting the SDGs, and foster public participation; and</li> <li>Policy alignment: develop alignment of national policy with the SDGs and identify opportunities for policy coherence.</li> </ul>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>
<b>Infrastructure and Capital Investment Plan (2016-2021)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>€27 billion multi-annual Exchequer Capital Investment Plan, which is supported by a programme of capital investment in the wider State sector, and which over the period 2016 to 2021 will help to lay the foundations for continued growth in Ireland.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Capital Plan reflects the Government's commitment to supporting strong and sustainable economic growth and raising welfare and living standards for all.</li> <li>It includes allocations for new projects across a number of key areas and funding to ensure that the present stock of national infrastructure is refreshed and maintained.</li> </ul>	<p>Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.</p>

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<b>European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-Fisheries) Regulations 2013 (S.I. 290 of 2013)</b>	These regulations have been drafted to implement the responsibilities of the Minister for Agriculture Food and the Marine in relation to sea fisheries in European sites, in accordance with the Habitats and Birds Directives as transposed by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulation 3 provides for the submission of a Fisheries Natura Plan in relation to planned fisheries;</li> <li>Regulation 4 provides for a screening of a Fisheries Natura Plan to determine whether or not an appropriate assessment is required;</li> <li>Regulation 5 provides for an appropriate assessment of a Fisheries Natura Plan and also provides for public and statutory consultation;</li> <li>Regulation 6 provides for the Minister to make a determination to adopt a Fisheries Natura Plan. The Minister may amend, withdraw or revoke a plan;</li> <li>Regulation 7 provides for publication of the adopted Fisheries Natura Plan;</li> <li>Regulation 8 provides for a Risk Assessment of unplanned fisheries and also provides for public and statutory consultation on the assessment;</li> <li>Regulation 9 provides for the issue of a Natura Declaration to prohibit, restrict including restricting by permit, control, etc. of sea fishing activities;</li> <li>Regulation 10 provides for Natura Permits to be issued where required by Natura Declarations; and</li> <li>Regulations 11 to 31 deal with functions of authorised officers and related matters, offences, etc.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Ireland's National Renewable Energy Action Plan 2010 (Irish Government submission to the European Commission)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) sets out the Government's strategic approach and concrete measures to deliver on Ireland's 16% target under Directive 2009/28/EC.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The NREAP sets out the Member State's national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020, and demonstrates how the Member State will meet its overall national target established under the Directive.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Strategy for Renewable Energy (2012-2020)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Government's overarching strategic objective is to make renewable energy an increasingly significant component of Ireland's energy supply by 2020, so that at a minimum it will achieve its legally binding 2020 target in the most cost-efficient manner for consumers.</li> <li>Of critical importance is the role which the renewable energy sector plays in job creation and economic activity as part of the Government's action plan for jobs.</li> </ul>	<p>This document sets out five strategic goals, reflecting the key dimensions of the renewable energy challenge to 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing on and offshore wind,</li> <li>Building a sustainable bioenergy sector,</li> <li>Fostering R&amp;D in renewables such as wave &amp; tidal,</li> <li>Growing sustainable transport; and</li> <li>Building out robust and efficient networks.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Governments White Paper 'Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future' (2015 – 2030)</b>	The White Paper sets out a vision and a framework to guide Irish energy policy between now and 2030. A complete energy policy update informed by the vision to transform Ireland into a low carbon society and economy by 2050.	<p>2030 will represent a significant milestone, meaning:</p> <p>Reduced GHG emissions from the energy sector by between 80% and 95% Ensuring that secure supplies of competitive and affordable energy remain available to citizens and businesses.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Policy Position on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (2014)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Policy Position provides a high-level policy direction for the adoption and implementation by Government of plans to enable the State to move to a low carbon economy by 2050.</li> <li>Statutory authority for the plans is set out in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015.</li> </ul>	<p>National climate policy in Ireland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognises the threat of climate change for humanity;</li> <li>Anticipates and supports mobilisation of a comprehensive international response to climate change, and global transition to a low-carbon future;</li> <li>Recognises the challenges and opportunities of the broad transition agenda for society; and</li> <li>Aims, as a fundamental national objective, to achieve transition to a competitive, low carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Clean Air Strategy [in preparation]</b>	The Clean Air Strategy will provide the strategic policy framework necessary to identify and promote integrated measures across government policy that are required to reduce air pollution and promote cleaner air while delivering on wider national objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having a National Strategy will provide a policy framework by which Ireland can develop the necessary policies and measures to comply with new and emerging EU legislation.</li> <li>The Strategy should also help tackle climate change.</li> <li>The Strategy will consider a wider range of national policies that are relevant to clean air policy such as transport, energy, home heating and agriculture.</li> <li>In any discussion relating to clean air policy, the issue of people's health is paramount and this will be a strong theme of the Strategy.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>EirGrid's Grid25 Strategy and associated Grid25 Implementation Programme 2017-2022</b>	EirGrid's mission is to develop, maintain and operate a safe, secure, reliable, economical and efficient transmission system for Ireland; "Our vision is of a grid developed to match future needs, so it can safely and reliably carry power all over the country to the major towns and cities and onwards to every home, farm and business where the electricity is consumed and so it can meet the needs of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grid25, EirGrid's roadmap to uprate the electricity transmission grid by 2025, continues to be implemented so as to increase the capacity of the grid, to satisfy future demand, and to help Ireland meet its target of 40 per cent of electricity from renewable energy by 2020.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with



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	<i>consumers and generators in a sustainable way."</i>		and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>All Island Grid Study 2008</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The All Island Grid Study is the first comprehensive assessment of the ability of the electrical power system and, as part of that, the transmission network ("the grid") on the island of Ireland to absorb large amounts of electricity produced from renewable energy sources.</li> <li>The objective of this five-part study is to assess the technical feasibility and the relative costs and benefits associated with various scenarios for increased shares of electricity sourced from renewable energy in the all island power system.</li> </ul>	<p>Key conclusions of the study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The presented results indicate that the differences in cost between the highest cost and the lowest cost portfolios are low (7%), given the assumptions made and costs included in the Study.</li> <li>All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to significant reductions of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions compared to portfolio 1</li> <li>All but the high coal-based portfolio lead to reductions on the dependency of the all island system on fuel and electricity imports.</li> <li>The limitations of the study may overstate the technical feasibility of the portfolios analysed and could impact the costs and benefits resulting. Further work is required to understand the extent of such impact.</li> <li>Timely development of the transmission networks, requiring means to address the planning challenge, is a precondition for implementation of the portfolios considered.</li> <li>Market mechanisms must facilitate the installation of complementary, i.e. flexible, dispatchable plant, so as to maintain adequate levels of system security.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways (2018)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The objective of this Strategy is to assist in the strategic development of nationally and regionally significant Greenways in appropriate locations constructed to an appropriate standard in order to deliver a quality experience for all Greenways users.</li> <li>It also aims to increase the number and geographical spread of Greenways of scale and quality around the country over the next 10 years with a consequent significant increase in the number of people using Greenways as a visitor experience and as a recreational amenity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Strategic Greenway network of national and regional routes, with a number of high capacity flagship routes that can be extended and/or link with local Greenways and other cycling and walking infrastructure;</li> <li>Greenways of scale and appropriate standard that have significant potential to deliver an increase in activity tourism to Ireland and are regularly used by overseas visitors, domestic visitors and locals thereby contributing to a healthier society through increased physical activity;</li> <li>Greenways that provide a substantially segregated off road experience linking places of interest, recreation and leisure in areas with beautiful scenery of different types with plenty to see and do; and</li> <li>Greenways that provide opportunities for the development of local businesses and economies, and</li> <li>Greenways that are developed with all relevant stakeholders in line with an agreed code of practice.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Water Resources Plan [in preparation]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The NWRP is a plan on how to provide a safe, secure and reliable water supply to customers for the next 25 years, without causing adverse impact on the environment.</li> <li>The objective of the NWRP is to set out how we intend to maintain the supply and demand for drinking water over the short, medium and long term whilst minimising the impact on the environment.</li> </ul>	<p>The key objectives of the plan are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify areas where there are current and future potential water supply shortfalls, taking into account normal and extreme weather conditions</li> <li>Assess the current and future water demand from homes, businesses, farms, and industry</li> <li>Consider the impacts of climate change on Ireland's water resources</li> <li>Develop a drought plan advising measures to be taken before and during drought events</li> <li>Develop a plan detailing how we deal with the material that is produced as a result of treating drinking water</li> <li>Identify, develop and assess options to help meet potential shortfalls in water supplies</li> <li>Assess the water resources available at a national level including lakes, rivers and groundwater</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Development (2014-2020)</b>	Vision: <i>"Aquaculture in RC is economically, socially and ecologically sustainable, with a developed infrastructure, strong human potentials and an organized market. The consumption of aquaculture products is equal or above EU average, while the technological development of the sector is among the best in the EU."</i>	<p>General development and growth objectives of marine and freshwater aquaculture (2014 – 2020):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen the social, business and administrative environment for aquaculture development</li> <li>Increase in the total production to 24,050 tonnes while adhering to the principles of economic, social and ecological sustainability</li> <li>Improvement of the perception and increase in the national consumption of National products</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Construction 2020, A Strategy for a Renewed Construction Sector</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction 2020 sets out a package of measures agreed by the Government and is aimed at stimulating activity in the building industry.</li> <li>The Strategy aims both to increase the capacity of the sector to create and maintain jobs, and to deliver a sustainable sector, operating at an appropriate level. It seeks to learn the lessons of the past and to ensure that the right structures and mechanisms are in place so that they are not repeated.</li> </ul>	<p>This Strategy therefore addresses issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A strategic approach to the provision of housing, based on real and measured needs, with mechanisms in place to detect and act when things are going wrong;</li> <li>Continuing improvement of the planning process, striking the right balance between current and future requirements;</li> <li>The availability of financing for viable and worthwhile projects;</li> <li>Access to mortgage finance on reasonable and sustainable terms;</li> <li>Ensuring we have the tools we need to monitor and regulate the sector in a way that underpins public confidence and worker safety;</li> <li>Ensuring a fit for purpose sector supported by a highly skilled workforce achieving high quality and standards; and</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<b>Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland (1997)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The overall aim of this Strategy is to ensure that economy and society in Ireland can develop to their full potential within a well-protected environment, without compromising the quality of that environment, and with responsibility towards present and future generations and the wider international community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring opportunities are provided to unemployed former construction workers to contribute to the recovery of the sector.</li> <li>The Strategy addresses all areas of Government policy, and of economic and societal activity, which impact on the environment. It seeks to re-orientate policies as necessary to ensure that the strong growth Ireland enjoys and seeks to maintain will be environmentally sustainable.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 and National Landscape Character Assessment (pending preparation)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Landscape Strategy will be used to ensure compliance with the European Landscape Convention and to establish principles for protecting and enhancing the landscape while positively managing its change. It will provide a high-level policy framework to achieve balance between the protection, management and planning of the landscape by way of supporting actions.</li> <li>Landscape Strategy Vision: <i>"Our landscape reflects and embodies our cultural values and our shared natural heritage and contributes to the well-being of our society, environment and economy. We have an obligation to ourselves and to future generations to promote its sustainable protection, management and planning."</i></li> </ul>	<p>The objectives of the National Landscape Strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement the European Landscape Convention by integrating landscape into the approach to sustainable development;</li> <li>Establish and embed a public process of gathering, sharing and interpreting scientific, technical and cultural information in order to carry out evidence-based identification and description of the character, resources and processes of the landscape;</li> <li>Provide a policy framework, which will put in place measures at national, sectoral - including agriculture, tourism, energy, transport and marine - and local level, together with civil society, to protect, manage and properly plan through high quality design for the sustainable stewardship of the landscape;</li> <li>Ensure that we take advantage of opportunities to implement policies relating to landscape use that are complementary and mutually reinforcing and that conflicting policy objectives are avoided in as far as possible.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Ireland's National Waste Policy 2020 – 2025</b>	The Policy sets out new targets to tackle waste and move towards a circular economy.	The plan includes halving our food waste by 2030, the introduction of a deposit and return scheme for plastic bottles and cans, a ban on certain single use plastics from July 2021, and a levy on disposable cups. Other measures include applying green criteria and circular economy principles in all public procurement, a waste recovery levy to encourage recycling, and ensuring all packaging is reusable or recyclable by 2030.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (EPA) 2014-2020</b>	<p>This Plan sets out the priorities to be pursued over the next six years and beyond to improve the management of hazardous waste, taking into account the progress made since the previous plan and the waste policy and legislative changes that have occurred since the previous plan was published. Section 26 of the Waste Management Act 1996 as amended, sets out the overarching objectives for the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan. In this context, the following objectives are included as priorities for the revised Plan period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To prevent and reduce the generation of hazardous waste by industry and society generally;</li> <li>To maximise the collection of hazardous waste with a view to reducing the environmental and health impacts of any unregulated waste;</li> <li>To strive for increased self-sufficiency in the management of hazardous waste and to minimise hazardous waste export;</li> <li>To minimise the environmental, health, social and economic impacts of hazardous waste generation and management.</li> </ul>	<p>The revised Plan makes 27 recommendations under the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevention</li> <li>Collection</li> <li>Self-sufficiency</li> <li>Regulation</li> <li>Legacy issues</li> <li>North-south cooperation</li> <li>Guidance and awareness</li> <li>Implementation</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Ministerial Guidelines such as Sustainable Rural Housing Guidelines and Flood Risk Management Guidelines</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Department produces a range of guidelines designed to help planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála, developers and the general public and cover a wide range of issues amongst others, architectural heritage, child care facilities, landscape, quarries and residential density.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Minister issues statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act which planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála are obliged to have regard to in the performance of their planning functions.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>HSE Healthy Ireland Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The vision is: <i>"A Healthy Ireland, where everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone's responsibility."</i></li> </ul>	<p>These four goals are interlinked, interdependent and mutually supportive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal 1: Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life</li> <li>Goal 2: Reduce health inequalities</li> <li>Goal 3: Protect the public from threats to health and wellbeing</li> <li>Goal 4: Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<b>Our Sustainable Future: A framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland 2012</b>	A medium to long term framework for advancing sustainable development and the green economy in Ireland. It identifies spatial planning as a key challenge for sustainable development and sets a series of measures to address these challenges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sets out the challenges facing us and how we might address them in making sure that quality of life and general wellbeing can be improved and sustained in the decades to come.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future – A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2020 (2009)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outlines a policy for how a sustainable travel and transport system can be achieved.</li> <li>Sets out five key goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce overall travel demand.</li> <li>To maximise the efficiency of the transport network.</li> <li>To reduce reliance on fossil fuels.</li> <li>To reduce transport emissions.</li> <li>To improve accessibility to transport.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Others lower level aims include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reduce distance travelled by private car and encourage smarter travel, including focusing population growth in areas of employment and to encourage people to live in close proximity to places of employment ensuring that alternatives to the car are more widely available, mainly through a radically improved public transport service and through investment in cycling and walking</li> <li>improving the fuel efficiency of motorised transport through improved fleet structure, energy efficient driving and alternative technologies</li> <li>strengthening institutional arrangements to deliver the targets</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Investing in our Future: A Strategic Framework for Investment in Land Transport (SFILT) – Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SFILT sets out a set of priorities to guide the allocation of the State's investment to best develop and manage Ireland's land transport network over the coming decades.</li> </ul>	<p>The three priorities stated in SFILT are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Priority 1: Achieve steady state maintenance (meaning that the maintenance and renewal of the existing transport system is at a sufficient level to maintain the system in an adequate condition);</li> <li>Priority 2: Address urban congestion; and</li> <li>Priority 3: Maximise the value of the road network.</li> </ul> <p>In delivering on the steady state maintenance objective set out in SFILT, the Plan includes for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planned replacement programme for the bus fleet operated under Public Service Obligation ("PSO") contracts;</li> <li>Tram refurbishment and asset renewal in the case of light rail; and</li> <li>To the extent within the Authority' remit, support for the operation of the existing rail network within the GDA.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Ireland – The Energy Policy Framework 2007 – 2020 (2007)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>White paper setting out a framework for delivering a sustainable energy future in Ireland.</li> <li>Outlines strategic Goals for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Security of Supply</li> <li>Sustainability of Energy</li> <li>Competitiveness of Energy Supply</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>The underpinning Strategic Goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring that electricity supply consistently meets demand</li> <li>Ensuring the physical security and reliability of gas supplies to Ireland</li> <li>Enhancing the diversity of fuels used for power generation</li> <li>Delivering electricity and gas to homes and businesses over efficient, reliable and secure networks</li> <li>Creating a stable attractive environment for hydrocarbon exploration and production</li> <li>Being prepared for energy supply disruptions</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Adaptation Framework (NAF) 2018 and associated regional, local and sectoral adaptation plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NAF specifies the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities in their administrative areas in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change and to avail of any positive effects that may occur</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adaptation under this Framework should seek to minimise costs and maximise the opportunities arising from climate change.</li> <li>Adaptation actions range from building adaptive capacity (e.g. increasing awareness, sharing information and targeted training) through to policy and finance-based actions.</li> <li>Adaptation actions must be risk based, informed by existing vulnerabilities of our society and systems and an understanding of projected climate change.</li> <li>Adaptation actions taken to increase climate resilience must also consider impacts on other sectors and levels of governance</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>2030 Climate and Energy Framework</b>	Adopted October 2014, includes EU-wide targets and policy objectives for the period from 2021 to 2030.	<p>Key targets for 2030:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions (from 1990 levels).</li> <li>At least 32% share for renewable energy. This was revised upwards in 2018.</li> <li>At least 32.5% improvement in energy efficiency. This was revised upwards in 2018.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Renewable Energy Action Plan (2010)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sets out the Member State's national targets for the share of energy from renewable sources to be consumed in transport, electricity and heating and cooling in 2020, and demonstrates how the Member State will meet its overall national target established under the Directive.</li> </ul>	Including Ireland's 16% target of gross final consumption to come from renewables by 2020.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement



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<b>National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland (2009 – 2020)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is the second National Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Ireland.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Plan reviews the original 90 actions outlined in the first Plan and updates/renews/removes them as appropriate.</li> </ul>	of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Energy &amp; Climate Plan (NECP) 2021 – 2030</b>	Ireland's National Energy & Climate Plan (NECP) 2021-2030 takes into account energy and climate policies developed up to 2019, the levels of demographic and economic growth identified in the National Planning Framework - Project 2040 and includes all of the climate and energy measures as set out in the National Development Plan 2018-2027.	The planned policies and measures that were identified up to the end of 2019, collectively deliver a 30% reduction by 2030 in non-Emission Trading Systems greenhouse gas emissions (from 2005 levels). Ireland is committed to achieving a 7% annual average reduction in greenhouse gas emissions between 2021 and 2030. The NECP was drafted in line with the current EU effort-sharing approach, before the Government committed to this higher level of ambition, and therefore does not reflect this higher commitment. Ireland is currently developing those policies and measures and intends to integrate the revision of the NECP into the process which will be required for increasing the overall EU contribution under the Paris Agreement.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Wildlife Act of 1976</b> <b>Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The act provides protection and conservation of wild flora and fauna.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides protection for certain species, their habitats and important ecosystems</li> <li>Give statutory protection to NHAs</li> <li>Enhances wildlife species and their habitats</li> <li>Includes more species for protection</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Actions for Biodiversity (2017-2021) Ireland's National Biodiversity Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sets out strategic objectives, targets and actions to conserve and restore Ireland's biodiversity and to prevent and reduce the loss of biodiversity in Ireland and globally.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To mainstream biodiversity in the decision-making process across all sectors.</li> <li>To substantially strengthen the knowledge base for conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity.</li> <li>To increase awareness and appreciation of biodiversity and ecosystems services.</li> <li>To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the wider countryside.</li> <li>To conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services in the marine environment.</li> <li>To expand and improve on the management of protected areas and legally protected species.</li> <li>To substantially strengthen the effectiveness of international governance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Broadband Plan (2012)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sets out the strategy to deliver high speed broadband throughout Ireland.</li> </ul>	<p>The Plan sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear statement of Government policy on the delivery of High-Speed Broadband.</li> <li>Specific targets for the delivery and rollout of high-speed broadband and the speeds to be delivered.</li> <li>The strategy and interventions that will underpin the successful implementation of these targets.</li> <li>A series of specific complementary measures to promote implementation of Government policy in this area.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 722 of 2003)</b> <b>European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations of 2003 (SI 350 of 2014)</b> <b>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface waters) Regulations of 2009 (SI 272 of 2009)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transpose the Water Framework Directive into legislation.</li> <li>Outlines the general duty of public authorities in relation to water.</li> <li>Identifies the competent authorities in charge of water policy (amended to Irish Water in 2013) and gives EPA and the CER the authority to regulate and supervise their actions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires the public to be informed and consulted on the Plan and for progress reports to be published on River Basin Districts (RBDs).</li> <li>Implements a Register of protected areas, Classification systems and Monitoring programmes for water bodies.</li> <li>Allows the competent authority to recover the cost of damage/destruction of status of water body.</li> <li>Outlines environmental objectives and programme of measures and environmental quality standards for priority substances.</li> <li>Outlines criteria for assessment of groundwater.</li> <li>Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for surface water bodies.</li> <li>Outlines surface water quality standards.</li> <li>Establishes threshold values for the classification and protection of surface waters against pollution and deterioration in quality.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations of 2010 (SI 9 of 2010)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transpose the requirements of the Groundwater Directive 2006/118/EC into Irish Legislation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outlines environmental objectives to be achieved for groundwater bodies of groundwater against pollution and deterioration in quality.</li> <li>Sets groundwater quality standards.</li> <li>Outlines threshold values for the classification and protection of groundwater.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to

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			need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Water Pollution Acts 1977 to 1990</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Water Pollution Acts allow Local Authorities the authority regulate and supervise actions relating to water in their division.</li> </ul>	<p>The Water Pollution Acts enable local authorities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prosecute for water pollution offences.</li> <li>Attach appropriate pollution control conditions in the licensing of effluent discharges from industry, etc., made to waters.</li> <li>Issue notices ("section 12 notices") to farmers, etc., specifying measures to be taken within a prescribed period to prevent water pollution.</li> <li>Issue notices requiring a person to cease the pollution of waters and requiring the mitigation or remedying of any effects of the pollution in the manner and within the period specified in such notices;</li> <li>Seek court orders, including High Court injunctions, to prevent, terminate, mitigate or remedy pollution/its effects.</li> <li>Prepare water quality management plans for any waters in or adjoining their functional areas.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Water Services Act 2007</b> <b>Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012</b> <b>Water Services Act (No. 2) 2013</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides the water services infrastructure.</li> <li>Outlines the responsibilities involved in delivering and managing water services.</li> <li>Identifies the authority in charge of provision of water and waste water supply.</li> <li>Irish Water was given the responsibility of the provision of water and waste water services in the amendment act during 2013, therefore these services are no longer the responsibility of the 34 Local Authorities in Ireland.</li> </ul>	<p>Key strategic objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring Irish Water delivers infrastructural projects that meet key public health, environmental and economic objectives in the water services sector.</li> <li>Ensuring the provision of adequate water and sewerage services in the gateways and hubs listed in the National Spatial Strategy, and in other locations where services need to be enhanced.</li> <li>Ensuring good quality drinking water is available to all consumers of public and group water supplies, in compliance with national and EU drinking water standards</li> <li>Ensuring the provision of the remaining infrastructure needed to provide secondary waste water treatment, for compliance with the requirements of the EU Urban Waste water Treatment Directive.</li> <li>Promoting water conservation through Irish Water's Capital Investment Plan, the Rural Water Programme and other measures.</li> <li>Monitoring the on-going implementation of septic tanks inspection regime and the National Inspection Plan for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems.</li> <li>Ensuring a fair funding model to deliver water services.</li> <li>Overseeing the establishment of an economic regulation function under the CER.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Irish Water's Water Services Strategic Plan 2015 and associated Proposed Capital Investment Plan (2014-2016)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Water Services Strategic Plan sets out strategic objectives for the delivery of water services over the next 25 years up to 2040. It details current and future challenges which affect the provision of water services and identifies the priorities to be tackled in the short and medium term.</li> </ul>	<p>Six strategic objectives as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet Customer Expectations.</li> <li>Ensure a Safe and Reliable Water Supply.</li> <li>Provide Effective Management of Waste water.</li> <li>Protect and Enhance the Environment.</li> <li>Support Social and Economic Growth.</li> <li>Invest in the Future.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and Review of Raised Bog Natural Heritage Areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aims to meet nature conservation obligations while having regard to national and local economic, social and cultural needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that the implications of management choices for water levels, quantity and quality are fully explored, understood and factored into policy making and land use planning.</li> <li>Review the current raised bog NHA network in terms of its contribution to the national conservation objective for raised bog habitats and determine the most suitable sites to replace the losses of active raised bog habitat and high bog areas within the SAC network and to enhance the national network of NHAs.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Food Harvest 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food Harvest 2020 is a roadmap for the Irish food industry, as it seeks to innovate and expand in response to increased global demand for quality foods. It sets out a vision for the potential growth in agricultural output after the removal of milk quotas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seeks for the improvement of all agricultural sectors at all levels in terms of sustainability, environmental consideration and marketing development.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Agri-vision 2015 Action Plan</b>	<p>Outlines the vision for agricultural industry to improve competitiveness and response to market demand while respecting and enhancing the environment</p>	not applicable	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with

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			and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS)</b>  <b>Agri-Environmental Options Scheme (AEOS)</b>  <b>Green, Low-Carbon, Agri-environment Scheme (GLAS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agri-environmental funding schemes aimed at rural development for the environmental enhancement and protection.</li> <li>GLAS is the new replacement for REPS and AEOS which are both expiring.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish best practice farming methods and production methods in order to protect landscapes and maximise conservation.</li> <li>Protect biodiversity, endangered species of flora and fauna and wildlife habitats.</li> <li>Ensure food is produced with the highest regard to the environment.</li> <li>Implement nutrient management plans and grassland management plans.</li> <li>Protect and maintain water bodies, wetlands and cultural heritage.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Rural Development Programme</b>	The National Rural Development Programme, prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, sets out a national programme based on the EU framework for rural development and prioritises improving the competitiveness of agriculture, improving the environment and improving the quality of life in rural areas	<p>At a more detailed level, the programme also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports structural change at farm level including training young farmers and encouraging early retirement, support for restructuring, development and innovation;</li> <li>Aims to improve the environment, biodiversity and the amenity value of the countryside by support for land management through funds such as Natura 2000 payments etc.; and</li> <li>Aims to improve quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of economic activity through the implementation of local development strategies such as non-agricultural activities</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Realising our Rural Potential: The Action Plan for Rural Development 2017</b>	The Plan aims to unlock the potential of rural Ireland through a framework of supports at national and local level which will ensure that people who live in rural areas have increased opportunities for employment locally, and access to public services and social networks that support a high quality of life.	<p>The Plan contains 276 actions across five key pillars. The five pillars are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting Sustainable Communities,</li> <li>Supporting Enterprise and Employment,</li> <li>Maximising our Rural Tourism and Recreation Potential,</li> <li>Fostering Culture and Creativity in Rural Communities, and</li> <li>Improving Rural Infrastructure and Connectivity.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Forestry Programme (2014-2020)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Represents Ireland's proposals for 100% State aid funding for a new Forestry Programme for the period 2014 – 2020.</li> </ul>	<p>Measures include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Afforestation and Creation of Woodland</li> <li>NeighbourWood Scheme</li> <li>Forest Roads</li> <li>Reconstitution Scheme</li> <li>Woodland Improvement Scheme</li> <li>Native Woodland Conservation Scheme</li> <li>Knowledge Transfer and Information Actions</li> <li>Producer Groups</li> <li>Innovative Forest Technology</li> <li>Forest Genetic Reproductive Material</li> <li>Forest Management Plans</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>River Basin Management Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The River Basin Management Plan sets out the measures planned to maintain and improve the status of waters.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aim to protect and enhance all water bodies in the RBD and meet the environmental objectives outlined in Article 4 of the Water Framework Directive.</li> <li>Identify and manages water bodies in the RBD.</li> <li>Establish a programme of measures for monitoring and improving water quality in the RBD.</li> <li>Involve the public through consultations.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Peatlands Strategy (2015-2025)</b>	This Strategy aims to provide a long-term framework within which all of the peatlands within the State can be managed responsibly in order to optimise their social, environmental and economic contribution to the well-being of this and future generations.	<p>Objectives of the Strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To give direction to Ireland's approach to peatland management.</li> <li>To apply to all peatlands, including peat soils.</li> <li>To ensure that the relevant State authorities and state-owned companies that influence such decisions contribute to meeting cross-cutting objectives and obligations in their policies and actions.</li> <li>To ensure that Ireland's peatlands are sustainably managed so that their benefits can be enjoyed responsibly.</li> <li>To inform appropriate regulatory systems to facilitate good decision making in support of responsible use.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Flood Risk Management Plans arising from National Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The national Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) programme commenced in Ireland in 2011 and is being overseen by the Office of Public Works. The CFRAM Programme is intended to deliver on core components of the National Flood Policy, adopted in 2004, and on the requirements of the EU Floods Directive.</li> </ul>	CFRAM Studies have been undertaken for all River Basin Districts. The studies are focusing on areas known to have experienced flooding in the past and areas that may be subject to flooding in the future either due to development pressures or climate change. Flood Risk and Hazard mapping, including Flood Extent Mapping, was finalised in 2017. The final outputs from the studies are the CFRAM Plans, finalised in 2018. The Plans define the	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with

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		current and future flood risk in the River Basin Districts and set out how this risk can be managed.	and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Draft National Bioenergy Plan 2014 - 2020</b>	The Draft Bioenergy Plan sets out a vision as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bioenergy resources contributing to economic development and sustainable growth, generating jobs for citizens, supported by coherent policy, planning and regulation, and managed in an integrated manner.</li> </ul>	Three high level goals, of equal importance, based on the concept of sustainable development are identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To harness the market opportunities presented by bioenergy in order to achieve economic development, growth and jobs.</li> <li>To increase awareness of the value, opportunities and societal benefits of developing bioenergy.</li> <li>To ensure that bioenergy developments do not adversely impact the environment and its living and non-living resources.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE) 2016</b>	Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2009/28/EC: On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.	Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017- 2030</b>	This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.	Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AFV forecasts</li> <li>Electricity targets</li> <li>Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets</li> <li>Hydrogen targets</li> <li>Biofuels targets</li> <li>LPG targets</li> <li>Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Food Wise 2025 (DAFM)</b>	Food Wise 2025 sets out a ten-year plan for the agri-food sector. It underlines the sector's unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further.	Food Wise 2025 identifies ambitious and challenging growth projections for the industry over the next ten years including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>85% increase in exports to €19 billion.</li> <li>70% increase in value added to €13 billion.</li> <li>60% increase in primary production to €10 billion.</li> <li>The creation of 23,000 additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high-end value-added product development.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Cycle Network Scoping Study 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outlines objectives and actions aimed at developing a strong cycle network in Ireland</li> <li>Sets out 19 specific objectives, and details the 109 actions, aimed at ensuring that a cycling culture is developed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sets a target where 10% of all journeys will be made by bike by 2020</li> <li>Proposes the planning, infrastructure, communication, education and stakeholder participations measures required to implement the initiative</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Policy Framework for Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport in Ireland 2017 to 2030</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This National Policy Framework on Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for Transport represents the first step in communicating our longer-term national vision for decarbonising transport by 2050, the cornerstone of which is our ambition that by 2030 all new cars and vans sold in Ireland will be zero-emissions capable.</li> <li>By 2030 it is envisaged that the movement in Ireland to electrically-fuelled cars and commuter rail will be well underway, with natural gas and biofuels developing as major alternatives in the freight and bus sectors.</li> </ul>	<p>This policy set out to achieve five key goals in transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce overall travel demand</li> <li>Maximise the efficiency of the transport network</li> <li>Reduce reliance on fossil fuels</li> <li>Reduce transport emissions</li> <li>Improve accessibility to transport</li> </ul> <p>These goals remain the cornerstone of transport policy and are fully aligned to the objectives of this National Policy Framework.</p>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021</b>	The Tourism Action Plan 2019-2021 sets out actions that the Tourism Leadership Group has identified as priorities to be progressed until 2021 in order to maintain sustainable growth in overseas tourism revenue and employment. Each action involves specific tourism stakeholders, both in the public and private sectors, all of whom we expect to proactively work towards the completion of actions within the specified timeframe.	The Plan contains 27 actions focusing on the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy Context</li> <li>Marketing Ireland as a Visitor Destination</li> <li>Enhancing the Visitor Experience</li> <li>Research in the Irish Tourism Sector</li> <li>Supporting Local Communities in Tourism</li> <li>Wider Government Policy</li> <li>International Context</li> <li>Co-ordination Structures</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

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<b>Tourism Policy Statement: People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025</b>	The main goal of this policy statement is to have a vibrant, attractive tourism sector that makes a significant contribution to employment across the country; is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable; helps promote a positive image of Ireland overseas, and is a sector in which people want to work.	The Tourism Policy Statement sets three headline targets to be achieved by 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overseas tourism revenue of €5 billion per year</li> <li>• net of inflation excluding carrier receipts;</li> <li>• 250,000 people employed in tourism; and</li> <li>• 10 million overseas visitors to Ireland per year.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Draft Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (DCCAE)</b>	Goal: To optimise the opportunities in Ireland for renewable electricity development on land at significant scale, to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, in accordance with European and Irish law, including Directive 2009/28/EC. On the promotion of the use of energy from renewable resources.	Objective: To develop a Policy and Development Framework for renewable electricity generation on land to serve both the All Island Single Electricity Market and any future regional market within the European Union, with particular focus on large scale projects for indigenous renewable electricity generation. This will, inter alia, provide guidance for planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.  Methodology: Development of the Policy and Development Framework is to be informed by the carrying out of an SEA, including widespread consultation with stakeholders and public, and with AA under the Habitats Directive.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>National Alternative Fuels Infrastructure for the Transport Sector (DTTAS) 2017- 2030</b>	This Framework sets targets to achieve an appropriate level of alternative fuels infrastructure for transport, which is relative to national policy and Irish market needs. Non-infrastructure-based incentives to support the use of the infrastructure and the uptake of alternative fuels are also included within the scope of the Framework.	Targets for alternative fuel infrastructure include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AFV forecasts</li> <li>• Electricity targets</li> <li>• Natural gas (CNG, LNG) targets</li> <li>• Hydrogen targets</li> <li>• Biofuels targets</li> <li>• LPG targets</li> <li>• Synthetic and paraffinic fuels targets</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>People Place and Policy - Growing Tourism to 2025, (DTTAS, 2014)</b>	Growing Tourism to 2025 is a policy framework for the development of tourism within the Country.	The framework establishes the overall tourism goal of Government; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment in the tourism sector will be 250,000 by 2025, compared with around 200,000 at present.</li> <li>• There will be 10 million visits to Ireland annually by 2025.</li> </ul> The Government's ambition is that overseas tourism revenue will reach €5 billion in real terms by 2025.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Waterways Ireland Heritage Plan 2016-2020</b>	The overarching aim of the Plan is to: <i>"Identify and protect the unique waterways heritage and promote its sustainable use for the enjoyment of this and future generations"</i> .	Four objectives of the Plan include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objective 1: Fostering partnerships to continue building waterway heritage knowledge through storing information, undertaking research and developing best practice.</li> <li>• Objective 2: Promoting awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of our waterway heritage with a focus on community engagement.</li> <li>• Objective 3: Promoting the integrated management, conservation, protection and sustainable use of the inland navigable waterway asset.</li> <li>• Objective 4: To develop Waterways Ireland as a heritage organisation committed to achieving the aim of this plan.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Tourism Development and Innovation – A Strategy for Investment 2016-2022, (Fáilte Ireland, 2016)</b>	This strategy sets out the framework and mechanism for the delivery of investment to cities, towns, villages, communities and businesses across the country. It identifies priorities to support innovation in the sector to retain and grow the country's competitiveness in the marketplace. Its ultimate aim is to strengthen the appeal of Ireland for international visitors.	The objectives of the Tourism Development and Innovation Strategy are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To successfully and consistently deliver a world class visitor experience;</li> <li>• To support a tourism sector that is profitable and achieves sustainable levels of growth and delivers jobs;</li> <li>• To facilitate communities to play an enhanced role in developing tourism in their locality, thereby strengthening and enriching local communities; and</li> <li>• To recognise, value and enhance Ireland's natural environment as the cornerstone of Irish tourism.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020 and 2021-2025 (in preparation)</b>	The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is an island-wide attempt to reverse declines in pollinating insects in order to ensure the sustainability of our food, avoid additional economic impacts on agriculture, and protect the health of the environment. The main objectives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making farmland, public land and private land in Ireland pollinator friendly;</li> <li>• Raising awareness of pollinators and how to protect them;</li> <li>• Managed pollinators – supporting beekeepers and growers;</li> <li>• Expanding our knowledge of pollinators and pollination service; and</li> <li>• Collecting evidence to track change and measure success.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This voluntary Plan identified 81 actions, shared out between over 100 governmental and non-governmental organisations.</li> <li>• A large focus of the Plan is to identify actions to improve the quality and amount of flower-rich habitat.</li> <li>• Actions range from creating pollinator highways along our transport routes, to supporting pollinators on farmland, in gardens, businesses, and on public land.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.



# SEA Screening Report

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Regional/ County/Local Level</b>			
<b>Southern Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy 2020-2032</b>	The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy provides a long-term strategic planning and economic framework for the Southern Region in order to support the implementation of the National Planning Framework.	The Southern Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy includes provisions for its nine constituent local authorities: Waterford City and County Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Tipperary County Council, Wexford County Council, Kerry County Council, Clare County Council, Limerick City and County Council, Kilkenny County Council and Carlow County Council.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Integrated Implementation Plan 2019-2024</b>	The priorities in the Integrated Infrastructure Plan align with the objectives and priorities set out in the Greater Dublin Transport Strategy 2016-2035, focused on improving public and sustainable transport. While the bulk of the Plan relates solely to the Greater Dublin Area, certain areas such as public transport services and activities related to small public service vehicles are dealt with on a national basis.	The Implementation Plan identifies investment proposals for a number of areas including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bus</li> <li>• Light Rail;</li> <li>• Heavy Rai;</li> <li>• Integration Measures and Sustainable Transport Investment;</li> <li>• Integrated Service Plan; and</li> <li>• Integration and Accessibility.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>NPWS Conservation Plans and/or Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs</b>	Management planning for nature conservation sites has a number of aims. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To identify and evaluate the features of interest for a site</li> <li>• To set clear objectives for the conservation of the features of interest</li> <li>• To describe the site and its management</li> <li>• To identify issues (both positive and negative) that might influence the site</li> <li>• To set out appropriate strategies/management actions to achieve the objectives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation objectives for SACs and SPAs (i.e. sites within the Natura 2000 network) have to be set for the habitats and species for which the sites are selected.</li> <li>• These objectives are used when carrying out appropriate assessments for plans and projects that might impact on these sites.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Groundwater Protection Schemes</b>	A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Groundwater Protection Scheme aims to maintain the quantity and quality of groundwater, and in some cases improve it, by applying a risk assessment-based approach to groundwater protection and sustainable development.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Land Use Plans (including Development Plans and Local Area Plans) in force within County Wexford and in other adjoining planning authorities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outline planning objectives for land use development.</li> <li>• Strategic framework for planning and sustainable development including those set out in National Planning Framework and Southern Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy.</li> <li>• Set out the policies and proposals to guide development in the relevant area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify future infrastructure, development and zoning required.</li> <li>• Protect and enhances amenities and environment.</li> <li>• Guide planning authority in assessing proposals.</li> <li>• Aim to guide development in the area and the amount of nature of the planned development.</li> <li>• Aim to promote sustainable development.</li> <li>• Provide for economic development and protect natural environmental, heritage.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs), including the Wexford LECP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The overarching vision for each LECP is to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The purpose of the LECP, as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development of the relevant local authority area, both by itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>County Wexford Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Character Assessments in adjoining counties</b>	Characterises the geographical dimension of the landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies the quality, value, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape area.</li> <li>• Guides strategies and guidelines for the future development of the landscape.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

## SEA Screening Report

Legislation, Plan, etc.	Summary of high-level aim/ purpose/ objective	Summary of lower level objectives, actions etc.	Relevance to the Plan
<b>Wexford Noise Action Plan 2019-2023</b>	Noise Action Plans are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, Statutory Instrument 140 of 2006. These Regulations give effect to the EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise. This Directive sets out a process for managing environmental noise in a consistent manner across the EU and the Noise Regulations set out the approach to meeting the requirements of the Directive in Ireland.	The main purpose of Noise Action Plans is to: Inform and consult the public about noise exposure, its effects and the measures which may be considered to address noise problems Address strategic noise issues by requiring competent authorities to draw up action plans to manage noise issues and their effects Reduce noise, where possible, and maintain the environmental acoustic quality where it is good	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>The Wexford County Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024</b>	The Strategy is developed around 4 key themes/goals: 1. Critical Buildings & Infrastructure 2. Natural and Cultural Heritage 3. Water Resources & Flood Risk Management 4. Community Services	The Wexford Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 seeks to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure a proper comprehension of the key risks and vulnerabilities of climate change;</li> <li>Bring forward the implementation of climate resilient actions in a planned and proactive manner; and</li> <li>Ensure that climate adaptation considerations are mainstreamed into all plans and policies and integrated into all operations and functions of the LA.</li> </ul>	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Local Authority Renewable Energy Strategy (LARES)</b>	The Strategy sets out the framework for the delivery of sustainable and renewable energies throughout the County.	The LARES outlines the potential for a range of renewable energy resources and developments and acknowledges the significant contribution that they can make to the county in terms of energy security, reduced reliance on traditional fossil fuels, enabling future energy exports, meeting assigned national targets and the transition to a low carbon economy.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Southern Regional Waste Management Plan 2015-2021</b>	These plans give effect to national and EU waste policy, and address waste prevention and management (including generation, collection and treatment) over the period 2015-2021.	To manage wastes in a safe and compliant manner, a clear strategy, policies and actions are required.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Fáilte Ireland Tourism plans, strategies, including those relating to the Ireland's Ancient East</b>	Fáilte Ireland's work includes preparing various plans and strategies for Ireland's Ancient East and other brands and initiatives. These plans are subject to their own environmental assessment processes and any project arising is required to be consistent with and conform with the provisions of all adopted/approved Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes, including provisions for the protection and management of the environment.	Some of Fáilte Ireland's plans and strategies include various projects relating to land use and infrastructural development, including those relating to development of land or on land and the carrying out of land use activities. Many of these projects exist already while some are not currently in existence.  The Statutory Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programmes that provide for different projects undergo a variety of environmental assessments. These assessments ensure that environmental effects are considered, including: those arising from new and intensified uses and activities; and those arising from various sectors such as tourism.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.
<b>Various existing, planned and emerging projects provided for by the above plans and programmes</b>	These projects have been provided for by higher-level plans and programmes.	These projects will contribute towards the development of the area to which the Plan relates and/or wider area and will contribute towards environmental protection and management.	Where new land use developments or activities occur as a result of this legislation, plan, programme, etc., individually or in combination with others, potential in-combination effects may arise. Implementation of the Plan if extended will continue to need to comply with all environmental legislation and align with and cumulatively contribute towards – in combination with other users and bodies and their plans etc. – the achievement of the objectives of the regulatory framework for environmental protection and management.

## APPENDIX 2

### APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT



# **APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT**

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**FOR  
PROPOSED EXTENSION OF DURATION  
OF THE  
CURRENT  
GOREY LOCAL AREA PLAN 2017-2023**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
ARTICLE 6(3) OF THE EU HABITATS DIRECTIVE**

**for: Wexford County Council**

County Hall  
Carricklawn  
Wexford



**by: CAAS Ltd.**

1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
24-26 Ormond Quay Upper  
Dublin 7



**APRIL 2022**

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# Section 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

This Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report (also known as *Stage One* AA) has been prepared to assess whether or not a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) or Natura Impact Report (NIR) (also known as *Stage Two* AA) is required for the proposal by Wexford County Council to extend the current Gorey Local Area Plan 2017-2023. AA is a procedure carried out in accordance with the requirements of Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (as amended) (hereafter referred to as the "Habitats Directive").

## 1.2 Legislative Context

The Habitats Directive provides legal protection for habitats and species of European importance. The overall aim of the Habitats Directive is to maintain or restore the "favourable conservation status" of habitats and species of European Community Interest. These habitats and species are listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives (Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds) with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated to afford protection to the most vulnerable of them. These two designations are collectively known as European sites and Natura 2000.

AA is required by the Habitats Directive, as transposed into Irish legislation by the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Act (as amended). AA is an assessment of the potential for adverse or negative effects of a plan or project, in combination with other plans or projects, on the conservation objectives of a European site. These sites consist of SACs and SPAs and provide for the protection and long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats.

## 1.3 Approach

The AA process is based on best scientific knowledge and has utilised ecological and hydrological expertise. In addition, a detailed online review of published scientific literature and 'grey' literature was conducted. This included a detailed review of the National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS) website including mapping and available reports for relevant sites and in particular sensitive qualifying interests/special conservation interests described and their conservation objectives.

The ecological desktop study completed for the AA screening of the proposal comprised the following elements:

- Identification of European sites within 15km<sup>1</sup> of the Plan boundary with identification of potential pathways links for specific sites (if relevant) greater than 15km from the Plan boundary;
- Review of the NPWS site synopsis and conservation objectives for European sites with identification of potential pathways from the County; and
- Examination of available information on protected species.

There are four main stages in the AA process as follow:

### **Stage One: Screening**

The process that identifies the likely impacts upon a European site of a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant.

<sup>1</sup> Beyond 15km landscape scale ecological interactions are likely to minimise potential effects unless significant hydrological pathways are present.

### **Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment**

The consideration of the impact on the integrity of the European site of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's structure and function and its conservation objectives. Additionally, where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts. If adequate mitigation is proposed to ensure no significant adverse impacts on European sites, then the process may end at this stage. However, if the likelihood of significant impacts remains, then the process must proceed to Stage Three.

### **Stage Three: Assessment of Alternative Solutions**

The process that examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoids adverse impacts on the integrity of the European site.

### **Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain**

An assessment of compensatory measures where, in the light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), it is deemed that the project or plan should proceed.

The Habitats Directive promotes a hierarchy of avoidance, mitigation and compensatory measures. This approach aims to avoid any impacts on European sites by identifying possible impacts early in the plan-making process and avoiding such impacts. Second, the approach involves the application of mitigation measures, if necessary, during the AA process to the point where no adverse impacts on the site(s) remain. If potential impacts on European sites remain, the approach requires the consideration of alternative solutions. If no alternative solutions are identified and the plan/project is required for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, then compensation measures are required for any remaining adverse effect(s).

The assessment of potential effects on European sites is conducted following a standard source-pathway-receptor<sup>2</sup> model, where, in order for an effect to be established all three elements of this mechanism must be in place. The absence or removal of one of the elements of the model is sufficient to conclude that a potential effect is not of any relevance or significance.

In the interest of this report, receptors are the ecological features that are known to be utilised by the qualifying interests or special conservation interests of a European site. A source is any identifiable element of the proposal that is known to interact with ecological processes. The pathways are any connections or links between the source and the receptor. This report provides information on whether direct, indirect and cumulative effects could arise from the proposal.

The AA Screening exercise has been prepared taking into account legislation including the aforementioned legislation and guidance including the following:

- AA of Plans and Projects in Ireland. Guidance for Planning Authorities, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2009;
- "Commission Notice: Managing Natura 2000 sites - The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission 2018;
- "Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission Environment DG, 2002; and
- "Managing Natura 2000 sites: The Provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC", European Commission, 2000.
- Practice Note PN01: Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management, Office of the Planning Regulator, 2021.

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<sup>2</sup> Source(s) – e.g. pollutant run-off from proposed works; Pathway(s) – e.g. groundwater connecting to nearby qualifying wetland habitats; and Receptor(s) – qualifying aquatic habitats and species of European Sites.

## **Section 2 Description of the Proposal**

Wexford County Council intend to extend the lifetime of the Gorey Local Area Plan 2017-2023 for a period of three years. Although the proposal to extend is being screened for the need to undertake SEA and/or Stage 2 AA, it is acknowledged that there is no provision under national legislation for the screening of Extension of Duration of Local Area Plans, however; Wexford County Council consider that it is appropriate to undertake the screening exercises.

This Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report and accompanying Screening for Strategic Environment Assessment Report examine the impact of the proposed extension of duration of the existing Plan with regard to potential effects on European sites (Appropriate Assessment) and the environment (Strategic Environment Assessment).

## Section 3 Screening for Appropriate Assessment

### 3.1 Introduction to Screening

This stage of the process identifies any potential significant affects to European sites from a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans.

An important element of the AA process is the identification of the “conservation objectives”, “Qualifying Interests” (QIs) and/ or “Special Conservation Interests” (SCIs) of European Sites requiring assessment.

QIs are the habitat features and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive for which each European Site has been designated and afforded protection.

SCIs are wetland habitats and bird species listed within Annexes I and II of the Birds Directive. It is also vital that the threats to the ecological / environmental conditions that are required to support QIs and SCIs are considered as part of the assessment.

The following NPWS Generic Conservation Objectives have been considered in the screening:

- For SACs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected; and
- For SPAs, to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

Where available, Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) designed to define favourable conservation status for a particular habitat<sup>3</sup> or species<sup>4</sup> at that site have been considered.

### 3.2 Identification of Relevant European Sites

The Department of the Environment (2009) Guidance on AA recommends a 15 km buffer zone to be considered. A review of the characteristics of the proposed extension has identified that, in the absence of significant hydrological links, the characteristics of the proposal will not impose effects beyond the 15 km buffer. Beyond this distance potential effects are diminished due to landscape scale ecological interactions. All European sites within a 15km radius of the Plan area were examined to assess potential connectivity corridors on a landscape scale and assess potential interactions between the proposal and the conservation objectives of each of the sites.

Details of European sites that occur within 15 km of the County are listed on Table 3.1. European Sites and the EPA Rivers and Catchments are also mapped on Figure 3.1. Information on QIs, SCIs and site-specific vulnerabilities and sensitivities (see Appendix I) and background information (such as that within Ireland’s Article 17 and Article 12 Reports to the European Commission, site synopses and Natura 2000 standard data forms) has been considered.

<sup>3</sup> Favourable conservation status of a habitat is achieved when: its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing; the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future; and the conservation status of its typical species is favourable.

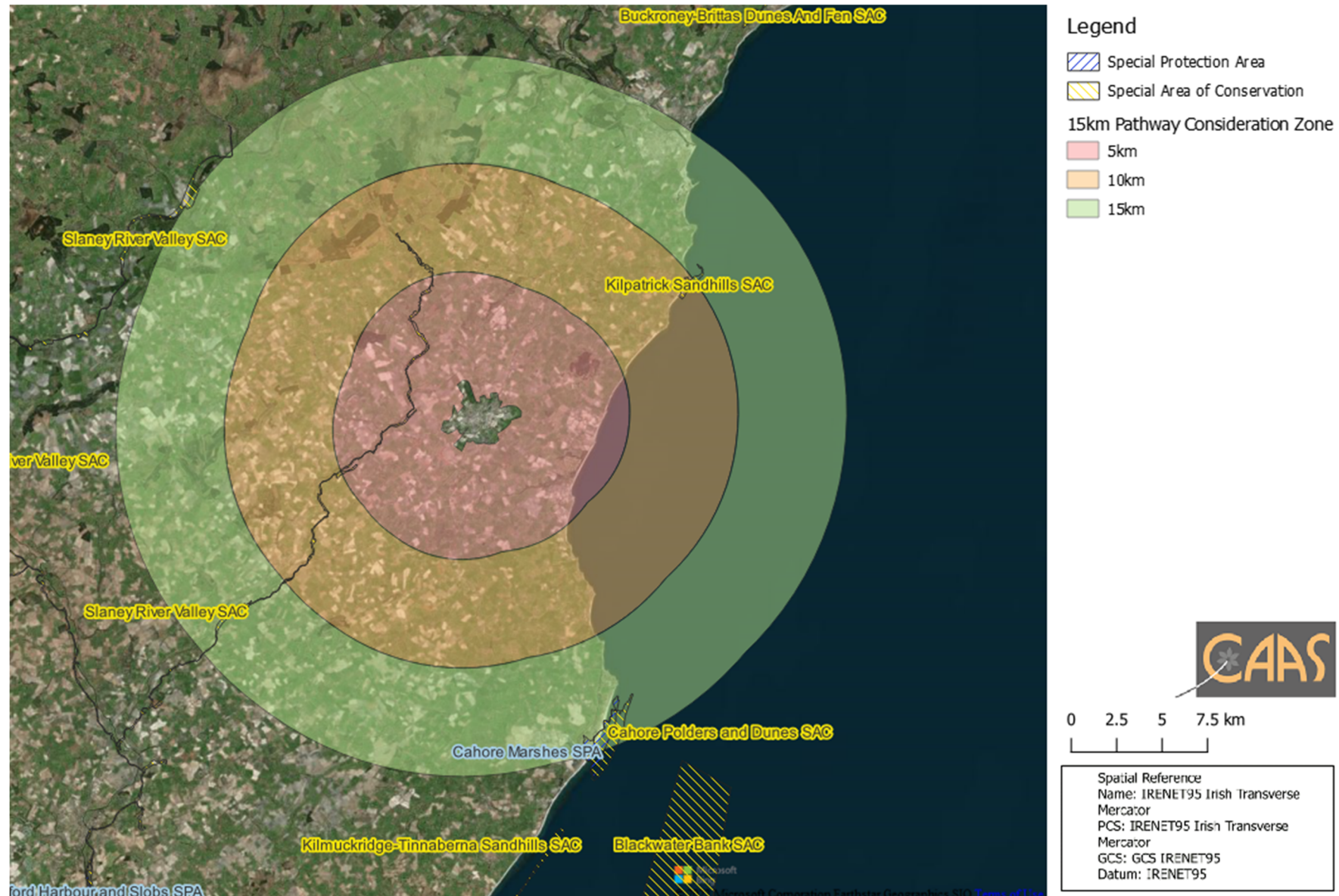
<sup>4</sup> The favourable conservation status of a species is achieved when: population dynamics data on the species concerned indicate that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats; the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future; and there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

Conservation objectives that have been considered by the assessment are included in the following National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) documents:

- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC [IE0001742] Version 1.
- NPWS (2011) Conservation Objectives for Slaney River Valley SAC [IE0000781] Version 1.
- NPWS (2021) Conservation Objectives for Cahore Marshes SPA [IE0004143] Version 8.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC [IE0000700] Version 1.
- NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives for Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC [IE0001742] Version 1.
- NPWS (2016) Conservation Objectives for Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC [IE0000700] Version 1.

The assessment considers available conservation objectives. Since conservation objectives focus on maintaining the favourable conservation condition of the QIs/SCIs of each site, the screening process concentrated on assessing the potential effects of the Plan against the QIs/SCIs of each site. The conservation objectives for each site were consulted throughout the assessment process.





**Figure 3.1 European sites with pathways for potential effects from the Local Area Plan boundary<sup>5</sup>**

<sup>5</sup> Source: NPWS (datasets downloaded April 2022)

### 3.3 Assessment Criteria and Screening

#### 3.3.1 Is the Proposal Necessary to the Management of European Sites?

The overarching objective of the proposed extension is not the nature conservation management of the sites, but to extend the period for which the Plan relates. Therefore, the proposed extension is not considered to be directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites.

#### 3.3.2 Elements of the Proposal with Potential to Give Rise to Effects

The proposed extension extends the existing Plan in its current form by a maximum of three years. The current Plan was subject to its own AA related considerations, which incorporated mitigation measures for the protection of European sites into the Plan itself.

The proposed extension does not introduce any process or content changes to the Plan itself – merely extends the period for which the Plan relates. This extension was considered with respect to the known threats and pressures related to European sites. There are no additional sources for effects introduced by the proposed extension that were not already considered by the existing AA related considerations for the current Plan.

#### 3.3.3 Screening of Sites and Types of Potential Effects

Table 3.1 examines whether there is potential for effects on European sites considering information provided above, including Appendix I. Sites are screened out based on one or a combination of the following criteria:

- Where it can be shown that there are no significant pathways such as hydrological links between the proposal and the site to be screened;
- Where the site is located at such a distance from that area to which the proposed extension relates those effects are not foreseen; and
- Where it is that known threats or vulnerabilities at a site cannot be linked to potential impacts that may arise from the proposed extension.

As outlined in the European Commission Environment DG document *"Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC"* outlines the types of effects that may affect European Sites.

These include effects from the following activities:

- Land take
- Resource Requirements (Drinking Water Abstraction Etc.)
- Emissions (Disposal to Land, Water or Air)
- Excavation Requirements
- Transportation Requirements
- Duration of Construction, Operation, Decommissioning

In addition, the guidance document outlines the following likely changes that may occur at a designated site, which may result in effects on the integrity and function of that site:

- Loss/reduction of habitat area;
- Habitat or species fragmentation;
- Disturbance to key species;
- Reduction in species density;
- Changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.); and
- Climate change.

Assessment of potential impacts on European Sites is conducted utilising a standard source-pathway model.

Each of these potential changes are considered below and in Table 3.1 with reference to the QIs/SCIs of all of the European sites identified.

**Table 3.1 Screening of European Sites**

Site Code	European site	Distance (km)	Qualifying Features (Qualifying Interest and Special Conservation Interests)	Potential effects (Refer also to Sections 3.3.2 and 3.3.3 above)	Pathway for Significant Effects	Potential for In-Combination Effects
001742	Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC	9.00	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> - white dunes [2120], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes ( <i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i> ) [2150], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]	The extension of up to three years to the current 2017-2023 Plan does not introduce any functional or policy changes to the current Plan itself – merely extends the period for which the plan relates. This extension was considered with respect to the known threats and pressures related to European sites. There are no additional sources for effects introduced by the proposed extension that were not already considered by the existing AA process.	No	No
001742	Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC	9.00	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> - white dunes [2120], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes ( <i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i> ) [2150], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]	The extension of up to three years to the current 2017-2023 Plan does not introduce any functional or policy changes to the current Plan itself – merely extends the period for which the plan relates. This extension was considered with respect to the known threats and pressures related to European sites. There are no additional sources for effects introduced by the proposed extension that were not already considered by the existing AA process.	No	No
004143	Cahore Marshes SPA	12.91	Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) [A142], Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Wigeon ( <i>Anas penelope</i> ) [A050], Greenland White-fronted Goose ( <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> ) [A395]	The extension of up to three years to the current 2017-2023 Plan does not introduce any functional or policy changes to the current Plan itself – merely extends the period for which the plan relates. This extension was considered with respect to the known threats and pressures related to European sites. There are no additional sources for effects introduced by the proposed extension that were not already considered by the existing AA process.	No	No
004143	Cahore Marshes SPA	12.91	Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) [A142], Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999], Wigeon ( <i>Anas penelope</i> ) [A050], Greenland White-fronted Goose ( <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> ) [A395]	The extension of up to three years to the current 2017-2023 Plan does not introduce any functional or policy changes to the current Plan itself – merely extends the period for which the plan relates. This extension was considered with respect to the known threats and pressures related to European sites. There are no additional sources for effects introduced by the proposed extension that were not already considered by the existing AA process.	No	No
000700	Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC	13.14	Humid dune slacks [2190], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> - white dunes [2120], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]	The extension of up to three years to the current 2017-2023 Plan does not introduce any functional or policy changes to the current Plan itself – merely extends the period for which the plan relates. This extension was considered with respect to the known threats and pressures related to European sites. There are no additional sources for effects introduced by the proposed extension that were not already considered by the existing AA process.	No	No
000781	Slaney River Valley SAC	14.73	Harbour seal ( <i>Phoca vitulina</i> ) [1365], Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> ) [1410], Estuaries [1130], Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Twaite shad ( <i>Alosa fallax</i> ) [1103], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], Freshwater pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> ) [1029], Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritimae</i> ) [1330], Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140], Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095], Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> ) [1096], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ( <i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106]	The extension of up to three years to the current 2017-2023 Plan does not introduce any functional or policy changes to the current Plan itself – merely extends the period for which the plan relates. This extension was considered with respect to the known threats and pressures related to European sites. There are no additional sources for effects introduced by the proposed extension that were not already considered by the existing AA process.	No	No

### **3.4 Other Plans and Programmes**

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an assessment of a plan or project to consider other plans or programmes that might, in combination with the plan or project, have the potential to adversely impact upon European sites. The proposed extension does not introduce any sources for effects. Therefore, there are no in-combination effects identified.

## **Section 4    AA Screening Conclusion**

This report is to inform the AA Screening of proposed extension of duration of the current Gorey Local Area Plan 2017-2023 and demonstrates that the implementation of the proposed extension will not result in effects to any European site.

Following the source-pathway-receptor model, the relevant attributes of European sites were assessed. No sources for effects to any European site would arise from the proposed extension that have not already been considered by the existing AA process for the Plan.

The risks to the safeguarding and integrity of the qualifying interests, special conservation interests and conservation objectives of the European sites have been addressed through existing, already in force policies and objectives within the Gorey Local Area Plan with which the proposal and all lower tier plans/projects must comply. In addition, any future projects, plans etc. that may arise will themselves be subject to AA/screening for AA when further details of design and location are known.

It is concluded that the proposed extension will not give rise to any effects on any European Site, alone or in combination with any other plans, programmes, and projects etc.

# Appendix I Background information on European Sites

List of European Sites considered by the assessment; including the Qualifying features (Qualifying Interests or Special Conservation Interests) and Site Vulnerability/Sensitivity

Site Code	Site Name	Qualifying Feature	Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
000700	Cahore Polders and Dunes SAC	Humid dune slacks [2190], Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> - white dunes [2120], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210]	G01.03.02, G01.02, A11, A06.03, A04.01.05, A05.02, J02.10, A08, A04, A03.03	Off-road motorized driving, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Biofuel-production, Intensive mixed animal grazing, Stock feeding, Management of aquatic and bank vegetation for drainage purposes, Fertilisation, Grazing, Abandonment or lack of mowing
000781	Slaney River Valley SAC	Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) [1355], Harbour seal ( <i>Phoca vitulina</i> ) [1365], River lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> ) [1099], Brook lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> ) [1096], Estuaries [1130], Sea lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> ) [1095], Twaite shad ( <i>Alosa fallax</i> ) [1103], Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitans</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation [3260], Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) [1106], Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glaucium-Puccinellietalia maritima</i> ) [1330], Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> ) [1410], Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles [91A0], Freshwater pearl mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> ) [1029], Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ( <i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i> ) [91E0], Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide [1140]	A01, A09, A10.01, F03.02.04, B02, C01.01, D01.01, D01.05, D03.01.03, J02.06.01, F01.03, E03, A08, E05, H01.01, F02.03.01, I01, J02.06, J02, J02.05.02, H01, H01.05, J02.11, J02.12.02, H01.08, K01.01	Cultivation, Irrigation, Removal of hedges and copses or scrub, Predator control, Forest and Plantation management & use, Sand and gravel extraction, Paths, tracks, cycling tracks, Bridge, viaduct, Fishing harbours, Surface water abstractions for agriculture, Bottom culture, Discharges, Fertilisation, Storage of materials, Pollution to surface waters by industrial plants, Bait digging or collection, Invasive non-native species, Water abstractions from surface waters, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Modifying structures of inland water courses, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to agricultural and forestry activities, Siltation rate changes, dumping, depositing of dredged deposits, Dykes and flooding defense in inland water systems, Diffuse pollution to surface waters due to household sewage and waste waters, Erosion
001742	Kilpatrick Sandhills SAC	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> - white dunes [2120], Annual vegetation of drift lines [1210], Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation - grey dunes [2130], Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes ( <i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i> ) [2150], Embryonic shifting dunes [2110]	G01, E03.01, I02, G01.03.02, J02.12.01, J01.01, K01.01, K02.01, X	Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Disposal of household or recreational facility waste, Problematic native species, Off-road motorized driving, Sea defense or coast protection works, tidal barrages, Burning down, Erosion, Species composition change (succession), No threats or pressures
004143	Cahore Marshes SPA	Wigeon ( <i>Anas penelope</i> ) [A050], Golden Plover ( <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ) [A140], Lapwing ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) [A142], Greenland White-fronted Goose ( <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> ) [A395], Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]	A04, G01.02, E01.03, A08	Grazing, Walking, horseriding and non-motorised vehicles, Dispersed habitation, Fertilisation

## List of all Qualifying Interests of SACs that have undergone Assessment including Summaries of Current Threats and Sensitivity to Effects

EU Code	Qualifying Interests	Article 17 Report Summary - Threats and Pressures	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures	Sensitivity of Qualifying Interests
[1029]	Freshwater Pearl Mussel ( <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> )	The pressures facing this species come from a wide variety of sources (e.g. pollution from urban wastewater, development activities, farming and forestry), often quite removed from the species' habitat. Flow changes, caused by land drainage are also a significant pressure facing the species.	A26, A31, B23, B27, C05, D02, F12, F28, F31, F33	Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters, Drainage for use as agricultural land, Forestry activities generating pollution to surface or ground waters, Modification of hydrological conditions, or physical alteration of water bodies and drainage for forestry (including dams), Peat extraction, Hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, Discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water, Modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development, Other modification of hydrological conditions for residential or recreational development, Abstraction of ground and surface waters (including marine) for public water supply and recreational use	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Very highly sensitive to pollution.
[1095]	Sea Lamprey ( <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> )	Most of the pressures on Sea Lampreys are associated with hydropower infrastructure, reduction of prey populations due to overharvesting, drainage and the use of both natural and synthetic fertilisers. Changes in rainfall due to climate change is also considered a significant pressure on the species.	A19, A20, A31, D02, G01, N01, N02, N03, X0	Application of natural fertilisers on agricultural land, Application of synthetic (mineral) fertilisers on agricultural land, Drainage for use as agricultural land, Hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, Marine fishing and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, Increases or changes in precipitation due to climate change, Threats and pressures from outside the Member State	Marine water dependent. Low sensitivity to hydrological changes. Coastal development, trampling from recreational activity.
[1096]	Brook Lamprey ( <i>Lampetra planeri</i> )	Most of the pressures on Brook Lampreys are associated with drainage for agriculture, the use of both natural and synthetic fertilisers, tree removal. Infrastructure related to hydropower along with pollution to ground and surface water and the discharge of waste water are also considered pressures.	A19, A20, A31, B09, D02, F11, F12, N01, N02	Application of natural fertilisers on agricultural land, Application of synthetic (mineral) fertilisers on agricultural land, Drainage for use as agricultural land, Clear-cutting, removal of all trees, Hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, Pollution to surface or ground water due to urban runoffs, Discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water, Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
[1099]	River Lamprey ( <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> )	The main pressures on River Lampreys are associated with hydropower infrastructure and changes in rainfall due to climate change. The use of synthetic and natural fertilisers, drainage and also infrastructure related to shipping are also considered to be pressures on the species.	A19, A20, A31, D02, E03, N01, N02, N03	Application of natural fertilisers on agricultural land, Application of synthetic (mineral) fertilisers on agricultural land, Drainage for use as agricultural land, Hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, Shipping lanes, ferry lanes and anchorage infrastructure (e.g. canalisation, dredging), Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, Increases or changes in precipitation due to climate change	Surface water dependent. Highly sensitive to hydrological change. Availability of suitable spawning ground is a considerable issue for the species.
[1103]	Twaite Shad ( <i>Alosa fallax fallax</i> )	There are a number of pressures related to this species, mainly relating to pollution, alteration of flow patterns, and habitat disturbance/	A19, A20, D02, E03, G01, G06, G12, I02, N01, N03	Application of natural fertilisers on agricultural land, Application of synthetic (mineral) fertilisers on agricultural land, Hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, Shipping lanes, ferry lanes and anchorage infrastructure (e.g. canalisation, dredging), Marine fishing and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species, Freshwater fish and shellfish harvesting (recreational), Bycatch and incidental killing (due to fishing and hunting activities), Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern), Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change, Increases or changes in precipitation due to climate change	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change.
[1106]	Salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )	Known pressures include exploitation at sea in commercial fisheries, interceptory fisheries in coastal waters, aquaculture and predation. In addition, the negative influence of climate change on prey structure as well as alterations in habitat and water quality are also pressures on the species.	A25, A26, B23, D02, F12, F28, G11, G19, G20, I02, J01, K05, L06, N01	Agricultural activities generating point source pollution to surface or ground waters, Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters, Forestry activities generating pollution to surface or ground waters, Hydropower (dams, weirs, run-off-the-river), including infrastructure, Discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water, Modification of flooding regimes, flood protection for residential or recreational development, Illegal harvesting, collecting and taking, Other impacts from marine aquaculture, including infrastructure, Abstraction of water, flow diversion, dams and other modifications of hydrological conditions for freshwater aquaculture, Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern), Mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial), Physical alteration of water bodies, Interspecific relations (competition, predation, parasitism, pathogens), Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change	Disease, parasites and barriers to movement.



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[1130]	Estuaries	Most of the pressures on estuaries come from various sources of pollution, including domestic wastewater, agriculture and marine aquaculture. Alien invasive species such as the naturalised Pacific oyster ( <i>Magallana gigas</i> ) are also recognised as a significant pressure	A28, F20, G16, I02, XU	Agricultural activities generating marine pollution, Residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine pollution (excl. marine macro- and micro- particular pollution, Marine aquaculture generating marine pollution, Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern), Unknown pressure	Inappropriate development, changes in turbidity
[1140]	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Pressures on mudflats and sandflats are partly caused by pollution from agricultural, forestry and wastewater sources, as well as impacts associated with marine aquaculture, particularly the Pacific oyster ( <i>Magallana gigas</i> ).	A28, F20, G16	Agricultural activities generating marine pollution, Residential or recreational activities and structures generating marine pollution (excl. marine macro- and micro- particular pollution, Marine aquaculture generating marine pollution	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Moderate sensitivity to pollution. Changes to salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development.
[1210]	Annual vegetation of drift lines	Most of the pressures on drift lines are associated with activities such as recreation and coastal defences, which can interfere with sediment dynamics.	C01, F01, F06, F07, F08	Extraction of minerals (e.g. rock, metal ores, gravel, sand, shell), Conversion from other land uses to housing, settlement or recreational areas (excluding drainage and modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions), Development and maintenance of beach areas for tourism and recreation incl. beach nourishment and beach cleaning, Sports, tourism and leisure activities, Modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defence or coast protection works and infrastructures)	Overgrazing and erosion. Changes in management.
[1330]	Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i> )	The main pressures on Atlantic salt meadows are from agriculture, including ecologically unstable grazing regimes and land reclamation, and the invasive non-native species common cord-grass ( <i>Spartina anglica</i> ).	A09, A33, A36, F07, F08, I02	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Modification of hydrological flow or physical alternation of water bodies for agriculture (excluding development and operation of dams), Agriculture activities not referred to above, Sports, tourism and leisure activities, Modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defence or coast protection works and infrastructures), Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern)	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Overgrazing, erosion and accretion.
[1355]	Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> )	There are no pressures facing this species	Xxp, Xxt	No pressures, No threats	Surface and marine water dependent. Moderately sensitive to hydrological change. Sensitivity to pollution.
[1365]	Harbour Seal ( <i>Phoca vitulina</i> )	Pressures on this species in Irish waters mainly involve commercial vessel-based activities such as local/regional prey removal by fisheries or by-catch in fisheries, or geophysical seismic exploration; other possible impacts may occur from coastal tourism and localised human disturbance at haul-out sites.	C09, G01	Geotechnical surveying, Marine fishing and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species	Prey availability, reduction in available habitat and water quality.
[1410]	Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> )	Most of the pressures on Mediterranean salt meadows are associated with agriculture, including overgrazing, undergrazing and land reclamation.	A09, A10, A33, A36	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Extensive grazing or undergrazing by livestock, Modification of hydrological flow or physical alternation of water bodies for agriculture (excluding development and operation of dams), Agriculture activities not referred to above	Marine and groundwater dependent. Medium sensitivity to hydrological change. Changes in salinity and tidal regime. Coastal development and reclamation.
[2110]	Embryonic shifting dunes	The majority of pressures on this habitat are associated with recreation and coastal defences, which can interfere with sediment dynamics.	C01, E03, F01, F06, F07, F08, L01, L02	Extraction of minerals (e.g. rock, metal ores, gravel, sand, shell), Shipping lanes, ferry lanes and anchorage infrastructure (e.g. canalisation, dredging), Conversion from other land uses to housing, settlement or recreational areas (excluding drainage and modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions), Development and maintenance of beach areas for tourism and recreation incl. beach nourishment and beach cleaning, Sports, tourism and leisure activities, Modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defence or coast protection works and infrastructures), Abiotic natural processes (e.g. erosion, silting up, drying out, submersion, salinization), Natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices)	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.



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[2120]	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with white dunes( <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> )	Most of the pressures on marram dunes are caused by the interference on sediment dynamics due to recreation and coastal defences.	E01, E03, F01, F06, F07, F08, I02, L01	Roads, paths, railroads and related infrastructure (e.g. bridges, viaducts, tunnels), Shipping lanes, ferry lanes and anchorage infrastructure (e.g. canalisation, dredging), Conversion from other land uses to housing, settlement or recreational areas (excluding drainage and modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions), Development and maintenance of beach areas for tourism and recreation incl. beach nourishment and beach cleaning, Sports, tourism and leisure activities, Modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defence or coast protection works and infrastructures), Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern), Abiotic natural processes (e.g. erosion, silting up, drying out, submersion, salinization)	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
[2130]	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)	Pressures on fixed dunes are associated with recreation and ecologically unsuitable grazing practices.	A02, A09, A10, F07, F08, I02, L02	Conversion from one type of agricultural land use to another (excluding drainage and burning), Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Extensive grazing or undergrazing by livestock, Sports, tourism and leisure activities, Modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions for development, use and protection of residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure and areas (including sea defence or coast protection works and infrastructures), Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern), Natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices)	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
[2150]	Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes ( <i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i> )	The majority of pressures of this habitat are due to land abandonment, recreational activities and also bracken encroachment.	A06, F07, I04	Abandonment of grassland management (e.g. cessation of grazing or of mowing), Sports, tourism and leisure activities, Problematic native species	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management.
[2190]	Humid dune slacks	Pressures on the habitat come from a number of sources. Including agricultural fertilisers, sports and leisure activities (e.g. walking, off-road driving and golf courses) and drainage. Succession to scrub is also a problem, particularly where it is linked to desiccation of the slack.	A19, A31, F07, I02, L02	Application of natural fertilisers on agricultural land, Drainage for use as agricultural land, Sports, tourism and leisure activities, Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern), Natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices)	Overgrazing, and erosion. Changes in management. Sensitive to hydrological change.
[3260]	Water courses of plain to montane levels with vegetation( <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> )	The majority of pressures on this habitat are caused by damage through hydrological and morphological change, eutrophication and other water pollution.	A25, A26, B23, C05, F11, F12, F13, K01, K04, K05	Agricultural activities generating point source pollution to surface or ground waters, Agricultural activities generating diffuse pollution to surface or ground waters, Forestry activities generating pollution to surface or ground waters, Peat extraction, Pollution to surface or ground water due to urban runoffs, Discharge of urban waste water (excluding storm overflows and/or urban run-offs) generating pollution to surface or ground water, Plants, contaminated or abandoned industrial sites generating pollution to surface or ground water, Abstraction from groundwater, surface water or mixed water, Modification of hydrological flow, Physical alteration of water bodies	Surface water dependent Highly sensitive to hydrological change and direct physical interactions.
[91A0]	Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles	The significant pressure facing this habitat are associated with invasive non-native species such as <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i> , cherry laurel ( <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> ) and beech ( <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> ) and overgrazing by deer.	A09, B09, I02, I04, M07	Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock, Clear-cutting, removal of all trees, Other invasive alien species (other than species of Union concern), Problematic native species, Storm, cyclone	Changes in management. Changes in nutrient or base status. Introduction of alien species.

**List of all Special Conservation Interest of SPAs that have undergone Assessment including Summaries of Current Threats and Sensitivity to Effects**

Species Code	Common Name	Scientific Name	Threats and Pressures Codes	Known Threats and Pressures
A050	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>	C03, F01, F03, G01, H01, H03, H07, I01, J02, J03	Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish), Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Invasive non-native species, Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions, Other Ecosystem Modifications
A140	European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	A02, A04, B01, C01, C03, F01, G01, H03, J01, K03, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Forest planting on open ground, Mining and quarrying, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Fire and Fire suppression, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in biotic conditions
A142	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	A02, C03, F01, G01, H03	Modification of cultivation practices, Renewable abiotic energy use, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution
A395	Greater White-Fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>	A02, A04, A06, A11, B01, C03, D02, D05, F01, F03, G01, H03, H07, K03, M01, M02	Modification of cultivation practices, Grazing, Annual and perennial non-timber crops, Agriculture activities not referred to above, Forest planting on open ground, Renewable abiotic energy use, Utility and service lines, Improved access to site, Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture, Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities, Marine water pollution, Other forms of pollution, Interspecific faunal relations, Changes in abiotic conditions, Changes in biotic conditions